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THE MARYLAND FARMER:

A

MONTHLY MAGAZINE:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

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BALTIMORE, M.D.

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THE MARYLAND FARMER

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

VOL. XIII.

BALTIMORE, DECEMBER, 1876.

No. 12

NEW VOLUME OF THE FARMER.

This number closes the thirteenth volume of the MARYLAND FARMER; and during its progress we have earnestly and industriously aimed and striven with our best ability to benefit the farmers of the country, and to point out the means of improving their homes and their operations; we have aimed to do this, both by our correspondents and by editorial labors; and we have received numerous pleasant and gratifying testimonials that our efforts have not been in vain, or entirely unsuccessful.

We are glad to believe that the past year has been a reasonably prosperous one with our farmers generally; and when *all* other classes properly feel and understand that their own prosperity, mainly, depends upon the success of the agricultural classes, all will wish and make kindly efforts to secure the highest success to that class, which is the foundation of prosperity to all.

If farmers produce nothing, manufacturers will have little to fabricate, commerce have little freight to carry, and the merchant will have few articles to sell and few customers to buy.

We desire to see *all classes prosper and be happy*; and such will be the sure result, if the farmers are successful; when the farmer thrives he is sure to buy more articles of the mechanic and the merchant; if his crops are bountiful and command fair prices, he has more inclination and more money with which to improve his farm, to adorn his home, to nicely furnish his house, and to buy more of the improved implements and machinery.

The Agricultural Magazine is a happy and convenient medium of information to each, and of communication among all. The farmer needs the paper to keep him posted in regard to improvements and useful experiments, while the mechanic and merchant needs it to inform them of the wants of the farmer; hence, all need to advertise in, and read the agricultural papers.

Our arrangements are such, as well as our determination, that the coming volume will be an im-

provement upon the past, in prompt, timely and useful information to all readers, and we hope for corresponding increase of patrons.

Ho! farmer, gathering fruit and grain—
Ho! merchant, counting your loss and gain—
Ho! builder, modeling wood and stone—
Ho! sailor, reaching from zone to zone—
Clasp friendly hands! for a common toll
Binds all mankind to the mother soil.

After the Farmers.

Farmers should be on their guard. A new dodge of swindling has been put in operation. Several strange men drive through an agricultural district. They stop at all the farm houses and make a contract to take all the butter the farm can furnish at fifty cents per pound. Further, it will be gathered up by fast special teams and the cash paid for it at the door. The pretense is that during the fall and winter, the large cities will be overcrowded, and that butter will be scarce. In this way, all the farmers in a district are contracted with, and arrangements are made to come for their butter on certain days and at certain points; the contract to go into effect in two weeks. A few days after the departure of the men, a drove of cows comes along.—They are fine looking milch cows. The farmers having a good thing in view, think they might use a few more cows. They try to buy them, and the drover doesn't seem to be anxious to sell. Finally, however, he is induced to sell two or three to each farmer, at prices considerably higher than the real market value. He then departs, meets his partners, who put up the butter job, and they divide their profits. That is the last the farmer hears of it.—*Ex.*

The MARYLAND FARMER,—For November comes to us as usual freighted with good and useful advice to farmers. No farmer should be without this valuable periodical. It only costs \$1.50 a year, and three numbers are worth the money. Send for a specimen copy, or call at our office and look at one.—*Salisbury Advertiser.*

Agricultural Calendar.**FARM WORK FOR DECEMBER.**

The last month of the year ought to be a busy one with farmers. His winter stores are to be laid up; his accounts to be settled; his employees to be paid in full; and his arrangements made with all whom he expects to hire as permanent hands for the coming year. The mutton-sheep and fatted cattle to be sold, and crops all secured.

All the utensils, and implements of every sort, not in daily use, ought to be gathered up, cleaned, put in good order, painted or oiled and put under cover and locked up. It will save so much trouble and vexation next spring, when wanted for immediate use. An inventory should be carefully taken and what additions, likely to be wanted, should be memorandumed so that they may in due time be supplied before there is actual need of them. If to be bought in town, the list will be ready to accompany the orders next February or March for grass seeds, plaster and fertilizers.

CORN GATHERING.

If not already housed, let it be done as soon as possible. The loss from standing in the field will be greater than the expense of hiring extra force to secure it if that should be necessary. In "lofting" the corn be careful to put only good sound ears in the crib; the short, soft or damaged corn kept separate and fed to the stock. As to saving the husks, fodder and the cobs, we refer you to what we said in our November number of the *MARYLAND FARMER*.

PROVIDING FOR WINTER.

Put the ice-pond in fine order; secure a supply of wood, coal, &c., for fuel; gather a large quantity of dry leaves for bedding the stock—hogs especially—and pack them in pens, covering with corn fodder or straw, or put them in sheds so they can be had handily during winter. Cover thickly the barn-yard with litter and corn-stalks. Make comfortable shelters for sheep, colts, brood-mares and young cattle. Keep your hog pens and lots dry and well littered, so they can be clean and dry—by so doing they will do better on less food, and be less liable to diseases.

Provender should be gathered in large supply, convenient to the barn-yard and other places where stock are fed. Racks in sufficient number and size for the quantity of stock, and should be kept filled with clean sweet straw. The sheds are easily constructed, with planted forks and poles, pine or cedar brush wattled, and made water and wind proof by straw and corn-stalks. Each shed should slant to the rear side and be open to the south. Keep these sheds dry by often spreading straw or leaves under them. Each should have a rack or manger suitable to the animals, therein sheltered. Give them plenty of hay or fodder, straw, &c., and do not stint the young stock in grain; sheep will do most of the time without grain, if they have a few roots; during snows they must have grain. In lambing-time the ewes must have meal or mill-feed and turnips. It would be well to separate the rams and weathers from the ewes. Any weak or feeble sheep ought to be put to themselves and have extra care and food; and ewes with lambs separated from all the other sheep.

When all these preparations have been made, the farmer can calmly survey the falling of the "beautiful snow," feel happy with his family around the cheerful fireside—read contentedly the *MARYLAND FARMER*—enjoy the whispered expectations and plans of the children for Christmas, and cheerfully enter into the spirit that animates the household in preparations for that joyous and merry event. So mote it be, to each and all of our readers and friends the coming and all future holiday seasons.

GOOD KEEPING POTATOES.—A writer from Monroe Co N. Y. in the *Country Gentleman*, gives the following:

POTATOES A YEAR OLD.—One of my neighbors, Mr. F. B. Shearer, has shown me some potatoes of the crop of 1875 which are still tolerably firm and of good quality. They are of the Brownell's Beauty variety, and that you may see the quality I send a specimen. It seems to me that this variety promises to excel for late spring and summer use before early sorts are ready. The Brownell's Beauty is very productive, of good quality and ripens a little earlier than the Peachblow, which variety it is likely to supersede. Farmers sometimes regret that potatoes cannot be kept over like other crops, so that years of plenty may supplement following years of scarcity and high prices. The success in keeping these potatoes in so good condition till the second week in September, looks as if this feat had almost been accomplished. These potatoes were kept in the bottom of a deep and dry cellar, and have never sprouted. When planted, the Brownell's Beauty is a very vigorous grower. W. J. F.

Two Good Items.

The following sensible items are floating around the papers—without credit—but they are worthy of higher endorsement:

PLASTER AND CLOVER.—In the spring of 1873. I sowed one field of eight acres to oats, thoroughly harrowed one day, then sowed on clover seed and cross-harrowed the field. I then put on about three pecks of plaster to the acre, and the result was a good yield of oats and a fine catch of clover, which grew finely through the summer, and last season produced a large burden of number one clover hay. This I am now feeding to my calves, for I prefer it to any other, when properly cured; for calves should have the best. The same week in which I seeded the eight-acre lot, I seeded one of four acres, and in precisely the same manner, save that I sowed plaster on two acres of it. The other two acres went without plaster. Now for the result: Where the plaster was sown the clover grew as finely as in the eight-acre lot, and produced as much hay last season; while on that without plaster, the yield of oats was much lighter, and nearly all the clover died from the effects of the drouth.

THE GREAT LOSSES IN FARMING.—Mr. L. L. Lucas, of St. Albans, a clear-headed farmer, has the following in the course of a sensible article: "Our greatest losses come from late-cut hay, cold stables and poor stock. Stock will grow and fatten at the expense of good feed; then, why keep it six years to make it what it can be made in three years, as is the practice all over the country—and all for the purpose of utilizing the rough fodder, such as straw, corn-stalks, etc. Such practice is called and understood to be economy. Not to be misunderstood—if the same ox should have the same growing feed in three years, he would be as large and valuable at three, as at six, and all the non-producing food saved, together with three year's care and three year's interest upon the money.

POTATOES make first-class chicken feed. The poultry raisers out west use them largely in fattening their surplus stock for the fall and early market. They should, of course, be cooked and mixed with corn meal when fed for fattening purposes. If fed to young fowls or chicks designed for breeding, or to laying hens, it is well to substitute wheat bran, or shorts, or oat meal, if it can be readily obtained for a portion of the corn meal. Use salt and pepper to taste as for table use; the fowls will relish such feed and thrive, or fatten on it nicely. *Exchange.*

Clawson White Wheat.

Editor Agriculturist: I obtained last fall from your office eight pounds of Clawson White Wheat, sent out by the Department of Agriculture. I sowed on the 20th day of September, on good wheat land, but poorly prepared. It did not make a vigorous growth during the fall, and during the winter did not apparently stand freezing and thawing as well as the Poland White or Genesee. The frost killed the leaves, but at the harvest time the result was all that could be desired. The eight pounds sowed yielded four and a quarter bushels, or at the rate of 40 bushels per acre of as nice white wheat as you ever saw. The straw is inclined to be short and stocky, head large and bald and red chaff. It ripens about the same time as Genesee. Its earliness, stocky growth and large berry make it desirable, and if it proves to be hardy it will be the wheat to sow on the rich land in this part of the West. IRO COE.

Adams Co., Ill.

LIME TO THE ACRE.—Lime, in itself, is not considered a fertilizer, or food for plants, while potash is. Carbonate, or quicklime, as it is usually called, when applied to sandy soils, does little more than hasten the decomposition of whatever vegetable matter it contains, and render every particle useful to the plants growing therein, and, as one of our noted agricultural writers long ago remarked, "the principal functions of lime, as a manure appear to regulate the condition of the organic matter in the soil, and to facilitate its healthy decay."

Good judgment is required in all cases where lime is applied, else it may do more harm than good.

Upon a light, sandy soil containing a moderate amount of vegetable matter, five bushels of freshly slaked stone lime, would be sufficient or ten to fifteen of air slacked or gas lime, evenly distributed over the surface. It is better to apply lime, in small quantities and frequently, than in very large quantities and at long intervals.—*Ex.*

DEEP TILLAGE.—Unless the subsoil of land is broken to a considerable depth—10 to 15 inches—moisture cannot rise from below in time of drouth, nor can the roots of plants run deep for sustenance; but with deep plowing, both of the benefits are secured. In very deep plowing, where new earth is turned up, it must be done, as we have often suggested, in the fall or winter, so that the frost and air can mellow and modify it, before the sun bakes it—that's the true mode.

What is nothing? A footless stocking without a leg.

Valuable Example.

Here is an instructive and valuable example, which we take from the *Maine Farmer*; and we can safely say, that the profits on that acre of corn was at least \$15, besides the stalks and fodder; and the profit of that acre of wheat was certainly \$16, besides the straw. And we may safely say, there is not an acre of farming land in Maryland which will not yield an equal crop and profit, in those grains, if the same amount of labor and manures be applied in the same manner. Let our farmers read and think of it, and try one acre, at least:

PREPARATION AND APPLICATION OF MANURE.

In the spring of 1875, I broke one acre of mowing land that had become very much bound out, and was very tough and hard, naturally rocky and very dry. I spread on the furrows a fair coat of green manure from the barn cellar, some 15 ox cart loads, if I remember right, and cultivated it till both the soil and manure were made fine and thoroughly mixed. Then, for the hill, I made a compost as follows: Six loads of loam from the roadside were hauled into the field the fall previous and tipped into a long pile. In the spring this was plowed over, and upon it was put four ox-cart loads of sheep dung made under cover, and upon the top of this, two loads of hog and hen manure, —about two-thirds of the former and one-third of the latter— and upon this, four barrels of ashes and two bushels of plaster, and the whole forked over and broken up fine. After it got to steaming well, it was again turned over and mixed and left to heat again, when it was put in pretty deep furrows, immediately covered with the hoe, and planted with eight rowed corn. This was hoed well once before haying, and weeded clean after. The yield was 147 bushels of ears of sound corn, and quite a lot —I forget how much—of pig corn.

The day after the corn was taken off, the ground was deeply plowed crosswise with a large plow and four oxen. In the spring of 1876, I put on twelve ox-cart loads of manure from the cellar, and plowed it in with horses and a seed plow, and after harrowing it well (I believe in harrowing) sowed two bushels of Lost Nation wheat, washed well and dried with ashes, letting it stand with the ashes 24 hours. After this was harrowed in, the surface was thickly covered with lumps of manure and small, half-decomposed sods, and it looked horribly. To remedy this, I took two stone drags and fastened them together, threw across them a large box, took a pair of horses, got on the box and drove carefully over the ground each way, after hauling off *all* the stones. This left it very much smoother than a roller, and the operation ground

the bunches and lumps completely. The grain came up splendidly, and when it was some two inches high it was as stocky as I ever saw on plowed land. I then sowed twenty bushels of ashes on it, and harvested thirty-two (32) bushels of nice wheat, and I have no doubt, if there had been a nice rain the first of August, there would have been from five to ten bushels more.

That acre is in good order for a hay crop for several years to come, and in shape to mow and rake with dispatch and satisfaction.

D. H. THING.

Clear View, Kennebec Co.

SUBSOIL PLOWING—In the September number of the *MARYLAND FARMER*, as in previous numbers we have distinctly recommended *deep plowing* and subsoil plowing, as a means to both renovate worn land and to preserve rich land, as well as to increase the yield of crops; and now we are glad to add such high authority, as the following as backer to our opinion:

"The best plan for Fall plowing, is the one laid down by Mr. Mechi. It is what he terms trench plowing. Take a full size double plow and immediately behind, in the *same furrow*, run a smaller size one. Thus, you have a layer of soil, next a layer of clay and upon top again a layer of soil. Before planting season the clay and soil are all intermixed. And each year the soil is added to made deeper and more productive. The best team should be put behind, though it is a smaller plow, the work is harder through the clay. We practice this and know it to be the very best possible means of preparing land for corn, wheat, tobacco or other crops."

WHEAT SUPPLY FOR EUROPE.—In the *FARMER* we gave some ideas of the probable want of American wheat in Europe; and now we see by foreign news that France will be short of wheat this year by some 9,000,000 hectolitres—a hectolitre being equal to 2 and 5-6 bush's. The harvest in Germany is more unfavorable than France, while that of England is quite deficient in quantity, but all that could be desired in quality. Hence, our surplus wheat crop will all be wanted by Europe, and at fair prices. Let Southern farmers raise their own wheat and meats, and not have to buy next year, at high prices, when greenbacks may be scarcer than they are now, and harder to get.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The November number of this well known agricultural journal is on our table. It is replete with matters pertaining to the farm, &c. We heartily commend it to our people.—*Md. Independent.*

Deer Creek Farmers' Club.

The Deer Creek Farmers' Club met at Mr. Scott Barnes, Saturday, October 28th. Present, Messrs. Ball, Moores, Archer, Barnes, Bayless, Glasgow, James Lee, Lochary, Munnikhuysen, Rogers, Silver, Webster, Willis, Janney, active members; Messrs. Hays, John Barnes and David Wilson honorary members; and Messrs. H. Barnes, George Finney and Silas Barnes, visitors.

The question, "Is it advisable for a Farmer to have any other Business in connection with Farming?" was vigorously discussed. Mr. Ball would devote his entire energy and care to his farm; thought it would pay him better if it received his whole attention. It was paying his farm a poor compliment, he thought, to have any other business in connection with farming. Mr. Ball runs a mill in connection with his farm, but thinks he would be as well paid if he would devote his entire attention to his farm, than otherwise dividing it between the farm and the mill. By counting the interest, repairs and attention the mill requires, does not know but that it would pay him better to give his whole time to his farm. Farmers, he said, had made on an average more money, for the last ten years, than any other class of men, and enjoyed greater comfort.

Mr. Archer thought more money could be made by mixing businesses. Instanced several of our farmers, as Messrs. Allen, Woolsey, John Moores, Oldfield, and others, who had made more money by having two businesses to follow, than if they had stuck close to farming.

Mr. Bayless thought it depended upon the size of the farm, and the capacity of the farmer. If he had a small farm, he might also be engaged in some other business successfully; but thinks the majority of farmers had better stick to farming.

Mr. W. D. Lee thought it depended on means, capacity, circumstances, and obtaining good farm hands.

Mr. Webster thinks it better to let alone outside business unless pertaining to the benefit of his farm. By so doing would have a better farm and enjoy more comforts.

Mr. Rogers said some men could not attend to any other business and make them both a success. If a farmer was kept away from home to or three weeks his farm would suffer.

Mr. Munnikhuysen agreed with Mr. Archer.

Mr. Lochary thought if men could make money at any other business they had better quit farming.

Mr. Willis had found from observation that men who stuck to one business made the most money. He said a man could tend to one business better than he could to two, but there was not much to be made at farming.

Mr. S. Barnes thought a man had better attend to farming and nothing else.

Mr. Moores thinks our best farmers have been trained in some other business; trained to keep correct accounts. He thinks it depends entirely on the man, and how he is situated; that not one man out of fifty make good farmers. Farmers do not make all the money, but farming is a good, safe business.

Mr. Hosea Barnes agreed with Mr. Moores.

Mr. Janney said that nine-tenths of farmers have not sufficient capital to carry on two business pur-

suits. If a man has too many irons in the fire his credit would suffer; that a farm would keep a merchant poor. If a farmer quits farming, and goes to the city, he fails.

Mr. Wilson said it depended on the size of the farm and the capacity of the farmer. Some men are capable of farming more land than others.

Mr. John Barnes, if he had means, could do better by attending to his farm; but if he had not means, would attend to some other business with his farming.

Mr. Hays said it depended on the man, the managing, the means, &c. A man had better pick out a business and stick to it.

Mr. Silas Barnes thought that if his farm was not large enough to require his whole attention, then he would work some other business in connection with his farm.

Adjourned to meet at Mr. Archer's, December 2d, 1876.—*Aegis*.

GREAT YIELD OF CORN.—Chas. Boyd of Newport, raised this year on 140 rods of land, 108 bushels of corn, besides the pig and trace corn. If any one has beat that I would like to hear from him. And that, in cold, stony, frosty Maine, as we find it in the Maine Farmer. On 7.8 of an acre of ground, 108 bushels of good sound corn, besides the small nubbins. Certainly, in Maryland, with our long, warm seasons, we ought to do as well as that; who will try and give us the result?

ROLLERS.—While among the farmers in Harford county, we noticed that many of them wisely use rollers on their fields; and there is no one implement produces more profitably results.

On fields of wheat, and the like, it should be rolled over the land after the grain is sowed, as it crushes the lumps, pulverizing the soil, and fixes the seed in the ground; it is good also to roll the ground after the corn is planted.

No soil or manure can be appropriated by the plant until it is made fine and reduced to a liquid, and it cannot be reduced to a liquid till after it is finely pulverized; one great use of minerals in the soil is its effect to liquefy them.

THE CAST IRON PLOW.—We do not now remember whether Newbold or Jethro Wood was the first to substitute the cast iron plow for the old wooden mould-board; but we do remember, when only a very small boy, in the Genesee country, our father brought into the town the first cast iron plow used there; and one of our wise neighbors, a judge, said to father, "Cartiss, you have got one of 'em, have you? well, I don't want a brittle plow, that the first boy who comes along will throw a stone at it and break it all to smash, like a dish kittle." But that day has gone by.

ADVERTISE your spare breeding stock now. It is better to get a market at this season, at a moderate price, than to risk the losses of winter.

GARDEN WORK.



GARDEN WORK FOR DECEMBER.

Not much work to be done in the garden this month, yet some things require the attention of the country gardener.—In good weather stiff clay beds ought to be spaded deep, manured and left in the rough until wanted, so that the frost and snows may act as pulverizers and fertilizers during winter. If these beds are damp, poor and rest on a hard pan, they should be trenched and well manured with half rotted horse-manure. Compost beds can be made; plants and trees be pruned; cold frames attended to, and by raising the sash in good weather the plants may have air, and grow hardy; but close them before sun-set, or on approach of cold or stormy weather; cover the sash with matting, or straw and boards during severe cold.

Artichoke, Rhubarb, Asparagus, Strawberry and other beds may yet be dressed and mulched with loam, coarse manure.

Cabbages and other roots, if not secured, should be, at once. *Parsnips, Carrots and Salsify* may be left in the ground to be taken up at intervals of good weather, in such quantities as may be wanted for use, during ten or fifteen days at a time—they wither if kept long out of the earth.

The best mode for preserving cabbage is to level a strip of land three feet wide, on high or sloping ground; pull up the cabbages and let them lie to wilt a little, so as not to break in handling; set them as close as possible on the heads with roots up, pressed toward the centre—then throw against the cabbages a little earth—cover all over with leaves or straw; over this throw earth, and when it gets very cold, cover with corn fodder. They will keep 'till next spring and be fresh and firm. This is far better than planting in beds, roots down and building a shelter over them, as is the most common way.

Celery, in trenches; *roots* in pits; *Spinach and Salads*, must all be finally covered up, at once; use leaves on the top of celery and then straw with earth or plank to keep the covering secure. Have plenty of earth on the sides to keep off frost and wet.

Endive.—Cover each plant with a flower-pot or small box, to make it blanch and keep it from frost. This is a superior salad at this season, better than loaf lettuce. It is crisp and nice and wholesome, dressed as lettuce is usually.

GARDEN TOOLS AND POLES.

Let all garden tools be scoured, ground and well cleaned, oiled and well repaired, before being put away for winter. A full supply of bean-poles and sticks for peas, tomatoes, &c., and also trellises, &c., should be gotten together for use next year. In stormy weather the gardener should weave rye-straw mats for covers to beds—and also prepare hand glasses or frames, covered with mosquito netting or paper oiled, to set over tender plants, early set out, so as to protect them from flies, bugs, winds, frosts, and other impediments to their growth.

ROOT GRAFTING.

During winter root grafting may be profitably pursued, with fruit trees.

COMPOST HEAPS AND MANURE MATERIALS.

This month compost heaps for the garden can be made very easily, and a large amount of material hauled together for being hereafter converted into prime manure for the garden. Gather all the haulm of the garden, rotting grass and weeds, leaves, woods earth, old turf from road-sides, ditch banks, scrapings of wood piles, muck, &c., over which scatter salt, ashes, slacked lime, plaster, &c.; and as opportunity offers, pile it in beds or conical heaps with a small depression on top, in which to pour water, or soap suds and liquid manure, so as to moisten the heap. During winter turn over these heaps and begin by adding one heap to another, well intermixing, and continue until all are made into one, when it can remain in pie until wanted for use.

Although there may be not any work this month in the garden, of a very pressing character, yet the gardener who is industrious, will find his time well employed if he desires to be ahead of his demands next spring, and gain a reputation for industry, neatness and successful management.

There is no sensible reason why a garden should look ugly in winter and not be attractive to the eye. With clear walks, beds spaded up neatly, shrubs and small fruits and vines all tied up and trimmed, mulched and such as require it, strawed

and otherwise protected—evergreens and hardy vegetables in nice order. A garden in winter is pleasant to the beholder, and he leaves it with far different impressions than if it was a neglected, repulsive waste, as is too often the case with most country gardens during winter. A garden put in the order we have just hinted about will be forwarded and twice as easily got in order for crops next year than will be those that were neglected and uncared for after they had yielded their crops. Let most of your April work be done in November and December if you desire early and abundant supplies of vegetables, at the least cost of labor next spring and early summer.

Winnipeg, Manitoba.

From the Manitoba *Free Press*, of which we have received a copy, we extract the following report of crops, away up in that cold, far off northwestern region, which we have looked upon as shivering with frost and snow:

AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE.

Settlements on Red River.—Wheat 32 bushels, barley 42, oats 42½, peas 27½, potatoes 182, turnips 400.

Settlement on the Assiniboine River.—Wheat 33½ bushels, barley 40½, oats 53½, peas 29½, potatoes 150, turnips 750.

Settlements on White Mud River.—Wheat 35 bushels, barley 40, oats 60, peas 31½, potatoes 287½, turnips 1,000.

Settlements East of Red River.—Wheat 29½, barley 40, oats 51½, peas 32, potatoes 387, turnips 700.

Settlements North of Assiniboine.—Wheat 30, barley 39, oats 41, peas 23½, potatoes 235, turnips 700.

Settlements South of Assiniboine.—Wheat 36 bushels, barley 60, oats 55, peas 25, potatoes 225, turnips 600.

THE TOTAL AVERAGE PRODUCTION,

throughout the whole Province of Manitoba this year, will therefore be found to be as nearly as may be: Wheat 32½ bushels, barley 42½, oats 51, peas 32, potatoes 229, turnips 662½.

This is much less total than was expected in the early part of the season, still greater than was latterly looked for, it being feared that the continual rains during the usual term of harvest would have utterly destroyed the crops in many sections.

The figures cited above, together with others in our possession, would indicate

THE TOTAL YIELDS OF THE PROVINCE,

to be about: Wheat, 430,000 bushels; barley, 173,000; oats, 380,000; peas 45,000; other grains, 5,000; potatoes, 460,000; turnips and other roots, 700,000.

BROOM CORN.—A correspondent, in Lynchburg, writes us, making several inquiries in regard to Broom Corn.

It is a profitable crop to grow; we have, in years past, made fine crops and good profits with it, in the West.

To produce the best yield of handsome, fine brush, the ground should be rich, mellow and well-drained; sand or gravelly is best. Our system was to plow the ground deeply, 10 to 12 inches, in autumn or early winter, and then leave it to be mellowed and slacked by the frosts; it was plowed again early in spring, as it was dry enough; then harrowed, rolled and harrowed again well; the rows or drills were planted just far enough apart to allow of working with horse and narrow cultivator, say 3 to 4 feet, and good thrifty stalks 4 to 6 inches apart in the rows; if the corn grows too thin or distant the brush will not be so fine and straight; it should be hoed out at least once, and cultivated twice or more during the season, at all events, the weeds must be kept down, and the soil well stirred.

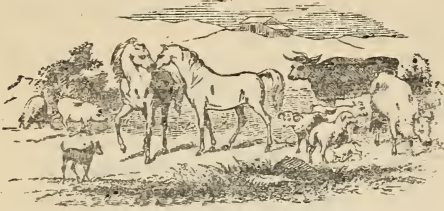
The ground should be made rich, with manure or compost, if a paying crop is expected; it may be put in the drills.

When the heads, or brush are fairly formed and blossomed, the heads should all be bent down, about six inches to one foot below the brush, so as to hang down by the side of the stalk, which causes the brush to grow straight and more even in length. It should be gathered or harvested when rather green, to make the most marketable brush; the brush is brighter, better and more salable when cured under shelter, which should always be done.

Broom Corn grown and treated in this manner is one of the most profitable crops a farmer can produce; and any quantity of prime, good brush will find market, at paying prices, here; most of the best broom corn in this market comes from the west; but just as good can be grown in Maryland, with the same care and effort, a prime bundle of brush, in this market is worth \$6. to \$7. per hundred pounds, a good yield is 500 to 700 lbs. per acre, on rich land.

FARMING.—When a farmer fails to improve himself, scarcely anything improves around him. It is well to improve the soil, and fruits, and stock of all kinds; but it is infinitely better to improve one's self, by judicious reading and persistent observation. Whenever and wherever the farmer understands his business as well as the lawyer or doctor does his, then farming as a profession is ennobled in the person of its followers. There is as little excuse for ignorance or incapacity in the one case as in the other.—*Exchange.*

Live Stock Register.



Best Sheep for Farmers.

The Kentucky Live Stock Record in speaking of the best breed of sheep for farmers says :

The best sheep for a farmer to keep are those that yield the heaviest fleeces and the greatest number of pounds of meat. The scrub sheep will yield from three to six pounds of wool per head, while Merinos will range between ten and twenty pounds, and thoroughbred Cotswolds more. Why is it that farmers do not raise the sheep which will give these heavy fleeces? Then as to meat, the fine sheep produce an enormous amount of flesh, and do not eat any more than a scrub. But besides these facts, the fine sheep do not only yield larger fleeces per head, but the wool is of superior quality. The same is true of the flesh of fine sheep in comparison with scrubs.

Southdowns, for instance, are the finest mutton in the world, always commanding an extra price—a flesh which princes desire—while the fleece is medium. The Shropshires stand next in meat quality, and are next to Cotswolds in fleeces. The profits of these breeds are very great in times of ordinary prosperity, and under all circumstances it is best for the farmer to breed them, because they pay better.

ROOM FOR MORE SHEEP.—Last year we paid foreign countries fifty millions of dollars for woolen goods and eleven millions of dollars for manufactured goods. When we have in the country twenty million more sheep than we have now, we shall only produce the wool we use, and yet there is no country on earth where sheep can be raised so profitably as in the United States. But we are coming every year nearer to supplying our own markets with the wool they demand. In 1875 the wool clip of the country was nearly 200,000,000 pounds, while in 1860 it was only 65,000,000 pounds.—*Exchange.*

ONE of the sights of Philadelphia is the beautiful garden of Mr. Richard Smith (of the Johnson Type Foundry), on North Broad Street. Put it in your guide-book.

Steers or Colts.

Mr. H. D. Thing, of Mt. Vernon, who is well known throughout Main as a sound thinker and able writer on agricultural topics, contributes a sensible article to the last issue of the *Boston Cultivator*, in which he compares the cost and expenses of keeping oxen and horses upon the farm from which we make an extract :

"A pair of steers during the first year of their lives requires good care and keeping; after that, grass in summer and the poorest fodder in the barn in winter are all they ordinarily get, until they are old enough to work, when they begin to pay for their board, and all the while are adding to their weight and value, and a founder, ringbone or spavin does not doom them to the tender mercies of the cheap jockey, but they go at once to the butcher and are as ready of sale at their market value as a bank bill, and they can be kept the first five years as cheap as the ordinary colt, and four good steers can be kept as cheap as a colt that is threatened with speed, and a yoke of oxen five years old will sell on the average for nearly or quite as much as two colts, to say nothing of the greater risk in rearing colts and the wear and tear of morals in the vain effort to develop speed where there is none. If occasionally a fast colt does crop out, he is not sold for a very high price till he leaves the hands of the farmer; please remember that; somebody else makes the money. Raising fast horses is, at the best, risky business; too much like a lottery, too many blanks for the prizes. I wish to say to the young men, what few of them are left upon the farm, that if they will look carefully over town, county or State in which they live, if that be in New England, they will find that as a class those farmers who are the best off, the most independent, the most respected and of the most value and importance to society, are those who have stuck closest to their oxen, cows, sheep and hogs."

Currying Animals.

No one thing conduces more to the health and thrift of our stock, horn cattle as well as horses, than currying and carding them once or more each day. Cows will give more milk, and they will be cleaner when the milking is done. Besides, if they are kindly curried every day, morning and night, they will be more quiet and less liable to kick over the milk pail. The circulation of the blood and the breathing will be more free and easy, while they will be warmer in cold weather, if regularly carded.

THE home that is happiest is that domestic circle which is filled with the adoration of kindred affection. Bliss is happy in its own sunshine.

THE DAIRY.



For the Maryland Farmer.

Items on Butter Making.

BY D. Z. EVANS, JR.

There is an "art" in making good butter, and those who contend that there is not are generally those who supply the city and other markets with *grease*—with them, butter making is a *lost* art. To make good butter, even after having gotten good butter cows, requires a knowledge as well as a strict attention to details to produce a good quality of butter, which will retain its good qualities for any length of time.

There are some persons, whose tastes are good with other things, who cannot tell any difference between fair to ordinary butter and butter of the finest quality. For such persons, this article is not written, but as there are a majority of butter eaters, who like and can tell a good brand of butter, it is best to give some items on the subject; for to describe the process minutely would require far more time and space than a periodical can devote to a single subject.

There are some persons who say that a good quality of butter can be produced by churning the whole milk. This is an error, as far as our experience and observation go, for, in the first place, the color is not as fine as when merely the cream is churned, on account of the presence of the cheesy particles obtained from the milk; while in the second place, the keeping quality is of the very lowest order, the cheesy particles causing a tendency to become strong. A neighbor of ours permits her milk to cream, and then stirs it up in a large pot; when enough has been gotten to fill the pot—say in about three or four days—the "mess" is churned—and of all the stuff called *butter*, this *slips* ahead of them all. It lacks color and keeping qualities, but does not, by any means, lack flavor or odor. And that stuff she calls butter! She has a very good cow—a grade Jersey—her dam being one of the richest butter cows I ever saw, yet, that is the result.

To get good butter, you must commence at the beginning. Use the utmost cleanliness in every department, and adhere to this rule. It is desirable to have a room for the milk, where you can regulate temperature, the best temperature for the milk being from 60 to 62 degrees, not lower than 60 degrees nor higher than 65 degrees, or you will have the quality of your butter to vary considerably, dependent upon the variation in temperature. Some recommend even a little below 60 degrees. At the above average temperature, the cream will do to remove in about 36 hours after it has commenced to rise. Some leave it until the milk is entirely thick, but the cream, if left that length of time, is apt to become watery or otherwise impaired; the best time to do the skimming being when the milk commences to thicken in the bottom of the pan. The cream is put into an earthen or tin bucket, and kept a few degrees colder than the milk, as it, being of a far more compact nature, is not so readily affected. Every time a fresh addition of cream is put into the cream bucket, stir the entire mass well; churn once or twice a week, as you see fit, and do not *wash* the butter, as some do, as it injures it very much; remove it from the churn as soon as it is gathered, and put it into the butter *keeler* or tub, to drain for a short time, when it should be worked over well with an applewood paddle (we like applewood, as it is close grained) twice or three times, to remove all the milk, after which put in the salt—from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 ounce of salt to the pound of butter, according to your taste or the taste of your customers—and work the salt well in, for if you do not work the butter well after salting, it will look streaked or marbled when cut down, which does much towards injuring the sale of any brand. I have a practical knowledge of all departments of butter making, and cannot only tell good butter when I taste it, but can generally produce butter of "A 1" quality myself.

MEAL FOR DAIRY COWS.—The *New England Farmer* comes very near the truth in its summary of the discussion on feeding Indian meal exclusively to milch cows, with no hay, when it says: "Whether exclusive meal feeding is advisable, under ordinary conditions, or not, the experiments and observations of Mr. Miller and others, tending to determine the course of the various kinds of food in its passage through the digestive organs of ruminating animals, cannot but help to answer questions, the solution of which will prove of great practical value to cattle feeders in general and dairymen is particular. As previously stated in these columns, we are not ready to try the fasting experiments upon our own herd, but should be glad to know that, if worst comes to worst, we should not be obliged to sacrifice our animals because of a short crop of hay,"

Mangel Wurzel for Cows.

The following communication, from Mr. Steiner, will be found interesting and useful to farmers, as he is so exact in detail and figures, that other operators can rely upon his process and statement in growing this very valuable root. Some of the specimens left at our office are about two feet long, and four to six inches in diameter.

For the Maryland Farmer

STEINER'S WHARF, Rhode River, Nov. 3, 1876.

COL. CURTISS—*Dear Sir:* I send you a few Mangel Wurzel beets, a sample of 858 bushels raised on one acre this season. You will see by their size that it was utterly impossible to measure them either by the bushel or barrel, and the only way that I could get at the quantity was by measuring my cart, an ordinary farm one—length of body, 67 inches; width, 37½ inches; and height to top of side boards, 19 inches, holding, as you will see, a little over 22 bushels. I finished putting them into a kiln to-day, and it took 39 of the above cart loads to do it, which at 22 bushels each, makes 858 bushels. I give you the cost as follows:

May 6, 1 hand, plowing, dragging and laying off, 1 day.....	75
May 15, 2 hands, drilling seed, (by hand,) 1 day each, 2 days.....	1 50
May 18, 2 hands, drilling seed by hand, 1 day each, 2 days.....	1 50
June 3, 3 hands, thinning and transplanting, 2 days each, 6 days.....	4 50
July 1, 3 hands, plowing and hoeing, 1 day each, 3 days.....	2 25
July 26, 3 hands, plowing and hoeing, 2 days each, 6 days.....	4 50
Aug. 21, 2 hands plowing and hoeing, 2 days each, 4 days.....	3 00
Nov. 3, 3 hands, putting into kiln with cart, 5 days each, 15 days.....	11 25
Cost of seed, 4 lbs. @ 60 per lb.....	2 46
Wear and tear of horses, gears and implements.....	4 00
One year's interest on price of land, \$100..	6 00
	\$41 65

Or about 5 cents per bushel, for what I consider the most valuable root feed for stock of all kinds during winter. Yours, truly,

F. B. S.

MANAGEMENT OF DAIRY COWS.—Next to good feed there is nothing more essential to a cow's making good returns at the pail than her bodily comfort. She needs a good bed to sleep on, good quarters to live in, and protection from extreme heat as well as cold. There is just as much sense in arguing that it would be better to have her out of doors all winter because she would then eat more hay than if she were comfortably housed, as to claim that she must be compelled to stand in the hot sun all summer because if she is given shelter she may not keep feeding every moment; and shade in pastures is as essential as tight barns and dry stables. To begin with, a pasture which is so short that a cow cannot get all the feed she needs in half the time, isn't fit to keep a cow in. Cows which reach the pasture by 6 o'clock should be full by 10, and the time from then until three or four in the afternoon can be much more profitably spent "taking ease under trees," than grubbing about in the blistering sun.—*Mirror and Farmer.*

The Poultry House.



The Crow—the Farmer's Friend.

The following from *Our Dumb Animals* is quite in accordance with our own experience with the ever abused crow:

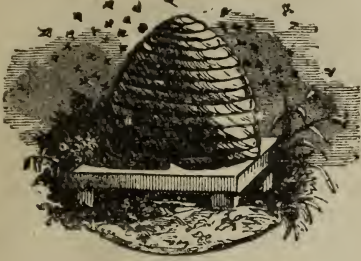
The poor crow finds every man's hand against him, notwithstanding the service he does to those who till the ground. If they do not kill him on sight, it is only because he is usually a match for even the most sharp-sighted gunner. He is quite as fond of bugs and worms, and the little field mice and young snakes, as he is of the farmer's corn. He is a good policeman about the farm house, and drives away the hawk, who can do twice the amount of mischief *he* is guilty of. He hunts the grass fields, and pulls out the caterpillars and all manner of pests, and probably saves many other crops, if he is hard on the corn.

A gentleman had a tame crow, who trotted out after him as he went out to wage his annual war on the squash bugs. His sable attendant put his head on one side and watched him a few minutes, as if to see how he did it. Comprehending the business at last, he went for those bugs with a will, and cleared the patch in fine style. He took it for a business the remainder of the season, insuring a fine crop.

CHICKEN CHOLERA.—A correspondent in Virginia writes us, that he, after considerable experiment, has discovered the cause and preventive of Chicken Cholera; we sincerely trust he has, and that he will inform his brother farmers what they are; he says he has an *infallible* preventive; we hope he has, and that he will make haste to give it to those interested, and we will cheerfully publish it, if he will send it to us, for the benefit of all readers.

Dr. Brainerd has, after extensive experiments, discovered the cause of "Pear Tree Blight," and he freely gives it to the fruit growers, in the November number of the MARYLAND FARMER, and has public thanks for it,

THE APIARY.



HONEY PRODUCTION.

Notwithstanding the fact that the estimated value of the honey and wax produced annually by the bees in this country is twelve or fourteen millions of dollars, honey has, until recently, failed to attract attention as an article of commerce. This season's yield will be simply enormous. The honey interest of California bids fair to soon exceed that of molasses in Louisiana—a single apiarian offers to this market five car loads of honey, and Capt. Hetherington, of this State, will have for sale this year at least \$75,000 of his own product. This great yield, and the limited means for its disposal, will no doubt, bring honey down still lower. It is the producers' hope, that, with the increasing interest of merchants in the article, it may always be disposed of at remunerative prices.—*American Grocer.*

Milkweed and Bees.

Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College, says that milkweed is not an enemy to bees, as has been supposed. This plant has been recommended as a destroyer of bees, to promulgators who thought that their fruits were injured by the industrious gatherers of honey. Prof. Cook says the apiarist should rejoice at the advice, as a case where the wrath of man, though aiming to hurl an arrow tipped with venom, brings only honied nectar. He adds: "I have watched the bees working on milkweed a good deal this summer, and have never known one to be so caught as to be unable to escape, and by watching those, after having marked them, which had the pollen masses adhering to them, I find that in nearly all cases, they escape from their burden. These extra burdens are unquestionably a hindrance. Yet the same flowers that furnish them yield bountifully of the richest and pleasantest honey. So I should be ready to thank any neighbor who would plant fields of milkweed near my apiary, even though malice prompted the act."

ITALIAN BEES.

When Italian bees were introduced into this country they were represented to be far superior to the black bees; but we have seen no evidence that they are so in any respect. Those men who keep them for sale, and rear and sell queens, are not the persons we should go to for reliable information in regard to these bees, as their interests prompt them to over state their good qualities. We have closely watched the opinions of beekeepers, at their conventions for many years, on Italian bees, and we have seen nothing from disinterested parties that prove these bees to be any better as regards the profits in bee-keeping, than our common bees. Nor have they been found to be any better than the black bees in England, as articles from the London *Cottage Gardener*, and other English papers now before me, fully show.—*Farmers Friend.*

BEE-KEEPING FOR BOYS.—Boys on the farm can lay by a nice little sum of money every year by keeping a few stocks of bees. Quinby, the best authority on bees that ever lived in this country, says that a stock of bees is better than a hundred dollars at interest. If they are properly taken care of, there is no doubt of it. Ten dollars a stock is a very reasonable estimate of profits from a well conducted apiary. The lessons in nature that the care of bees would inculcate, would alone pay for all the trouble experienced. Every farmer's boy old enough to take care of them ought to have a stock of bees in a moveable-comb hive, to commence with. If the father possesses the requisite knowledge to direct in the care of this stock, it might be the foundation of a substantial fortune.—*Bee Keeper.*

EXTRACTED HONEY.—A correspondent of the *Bee Keepers' Magazine* says: I used to take my surplus honey in boxes, but since I have commenced the use of the extractor, have no notion of going back to the use of boxes again. I think I can make a home market for all my surplus in time. I keep my extracted honey from candying by letting it stand a few days after throwing out, when I heat it to 125 degrees and seal in cans; this does not injure the flavor. Have some now that is perfectly clear and it stands in a cold room.

BEES need fresh water constantly. A supply is easily given by a jar inverted in a saucer and daily replenished. It is but little trouble thus to furnish as many of these watering places as may be needed. They are neat, easily examined, readily replenished, and readily accepted by the bees.

For the Maryland Farmer.

CALIFORNIA MATTERS.

BY GEN. A. M. WINN.

COL. D. S. CURTISS—Dear Sir: The whole people seem to be engaged in politics, so that the papers contain scarcely anything else; but I will try and turn my thoughts into an agricultural channel.

HAY.

One of the most important and valuable crops we raise in this State is *hay*; and so it should be considered every where, for without it we cannot rely upon our horses or cattle, to any great extent. We have had large quantities of wild grass, but the plow has done its work in detroying wild fields of hay.

ALFALFA

is the most enduring and most nutritious of all the grasses, (not a grass, a legume,) sown in this country for cattle feed; it is often cut three, and in some years, four times, frequently making six tons per acre, during the year, indeed, much more is reported to have been obtained. It is so tenacious of life that it is worse than blue grass to get rid of, once fully set in the ground, I have seen roots of it ten feet long, looking like a long, slim parsnip. When cut before the stems become hard it makes splendid hay, as well as pasture also.

THE GRAIN SOWN HERE

is deteriorating for want of change in soil, and from one climate to another. A train brought a lot of *barley* from the Southern part of the State, a few days ago, which has been bought up for seed, with a view to meeting this emergency. *Wheat* must be changed regularly, it matters not how good it may appear, it will not do so well as when the seed is brought from a distance at least once in three or four years; our farmers will prove this fact another year.

OUR WHEAT MARKET

is moved up and down now, just in proportion to the change in the war news from Europe; there is an immense amount of shipping come in lately to carry our wheat to the European markets, which makes farmers hopeful; very little grain has been sold yet; the Grangers' Bank is helping farmers with money, while they wait market events. I think it is always best for a man to sell when a good price is offered and he is making a good margin of profits; but men differ in opinion and take the consequences.

STRAWBERRY HOPS,

or a variety of hops known by that name, is proving a wonderful lucrative crop in this country; samples of them have been sent to the Centennial

Exhibition, by Mr. A. Clock; he learned that thousands of samples were there, but he hoped at least to get a public notice of his, which would attract attention and cause a demand; but to his utter astonishment, he has received the *first* prize for his sample of hops, which will be quite a feather in the caps of our hop growers in this State.

PLOWING

in this country has been mere *scratching*; I am told that *three inches* deep is about the average depth; some fields have been cropped for twenty years just in that way, until they have cultivated a *hard pan* bottom about that depth. I have often thought of your talk about plowing and top dressing; it opened my eyes on that subject, and I have frequently told it to farmers of my acquaintance. They must *plow deeply*, or very soon they will have to hunt *new* land and leave the old to better farmers and more patient men.

OUR FRUIT CROP

is most abundant; we have fine free stone peaches in market yet, as delicious as in proper peach season; I have never seen such apples in my life; I don't mean the size, like that "glorious humbug" or *gloria mundi* that you tell about in the MARYLAND FARMER; but smooth, thin-skinned, palatable apples, fit for a King or President of the United States. Our finest apples have usually come from Oregon, but these are regular California apples, and look as if they might keep always.

OUR PEARS,

you know, are the finest in the world; the Bartlett is a wonderful fruit, but we have others here full as sweet and attractive to the taste, though they don't look quite so well. The Winter Nelis is one of the most delicious pears we have at this season of the year, though we have several other kinds that would tempt a sick man into goimandizing. There has been an immense amount of fruit taken from here to Philadelphia, which I suppose you have seen.

[We must differ with our excellent correspondent in regard to California pears; true, they are large and fair, but when we get them here they are not quite equal in flavor to those grown here.]

AND NOW, MY DEAR FRIEND,

I must close. Colonel, we are nearing on to our journey's end; but not without having done some good in the world, I trust; our honor and efforts to do good is better than all the wealth that we might have stored up. If we never meet again, we shall see each other on the other side of the river, where, it is to be hoped, we shall enjoy a more blissful existence than we have had here. Though I do not complain of my lot.

San Francisco, October 21, 1876.

NOTE.—We know that General Winn has been a vastly useful man—one of the most useful—and from his known regular and temperate habits, in all things, we have confident hope he will survive for many more useful years to the industrial classes—whom he has ably served.

Florida—Sanitary.

We have received a lengthy communication from an old and intelligent friend, in Florida, from which we make the following extracts:

LIMONA FARM, TAMPA, FLORIDA, Oct. 17, 1876.

COL. D. S. CURTISS: The MARRLAND FARMER, for September, has come to hand, for which, thanks; it is read with pleasure, and contains much useful matter, and ought to pny.

An inspection of the map ought to convince any one that the northern counties of Florida have no more claims to the semi-tropics than Southern Alabama and Mississippi. All of Florida does not grow the semi-tropical fruits, as frosts sometimes kill many of them down to the 28th parallel. The name, "Land of Flowers"—Florida, in the Spanish language, did not rise in the north, but dates back to the landing of Ponce de Leon, in Tampa.

Florida, as a "sanitarium," is often spoken of; no portion of the United States better deserves the name. Yet, all of Florida is not healtnful; and in some places there may be occasion to use the FARMER'S (September number) recipe, "How to Cure the Chills."

The "large and beautiful tract of land of several thousand acres, lying between Tallahassee and the Gulf," is beautiful and of rich soil, but it lies on the tertiary lime rock, which always gives hard water, unfit for human beings to drink. [Not always, many people prefer it, though we do not. Ed.]

A consultation of the Reports of the Surgeon General told me, that during the Indian wars, thousands of men were stationed in Tampa, and in this, Hillsboro' and Polk Counties, all were more healthy than at any other post in the United States.

I came here in January last, at the age of 70 years, [we did not think the Judge that old] and have found better health than at any place I have ever lived in. In Wisconsin and in New Mexico I suffered with rheumatism and neuralgia; here, though more exposed, often wet with showers, I have not had a twinge; the influenza and winter coughs have left me; my farm has been settled 20 years, and no case of chills has ever occurred to any of its inhabitants; no case of bilious fever has occurred to any of my neighbors, who live on lands where they can get pure water from their wells

* * * * *

I would be glad to speak of our climate, where snows never fall, and white frosts are seldom; of our products and ever-blooming flowers; of our fine seasons and cheap living; of our lands, and

the means of making them the richest in the world; of our fisheries; and our means of communication with the world; but I must forbear, and close by saying, no man has seen the Land of Flowers who has not come to Tampa, and examined the country east of that place. I advise none to settle till they have seen for themselves. Yours, &c.,

J. G. KNAPP.

THE MOST USEFUL DRUGS.—According to the London Medical Times and Gazette, a party of ten medical men were dining together not long since, and one, during dessert, started the question that, supposing all present were limited in their practice to a selection of six pharmacopœial remedies, which would be chosen as being most useful, compound drugs to be accepted. Each of the party wrote the names of the six drugs he should select, and handed them to the doctor who started the enquiry. On examining the lists, it was found a majority of votes were given in favor of opium, quinine and iron; between mercury and iodide of potassium the votes were equally divided, as they were also between ammonia and chloroform.

RECIPE FOR POISON AND BITES.—An old physician says that *sweet oil* is not only an antidote to the bite of the rattlesnake, but "will cure poison of any kind, both on man and beast. The patient must take a spoonful of it internally, and bathe the wound for a cure. To cure a horse, it takes eight times as much as for a man. One of the most extreme cases of snake bites occurred eleven years ago. It had been of thirty days' standing, and the patient had been given up by his physicians. I gave a spoonful of the oil, which effected a cure. It will cure bloat in cattle caused by fresh clover. It will cure the stings of bees, spiders or other insects, and persons who have been poisoned by a low running vine called ivy."

SWINE.—More improvement is noticeable in swine than in any other stock, but unless improvement is kept up by the use of thoroughbred males the stock will go back. As a primary principle in breeding; it may be said that a half-bred or grade male should never be used to produce stock. For a sow that produces ten young ones at once, it is the very poorest economy to breed her to a poor male. No stock pays better to improve than swine, on account of the rapid increase.

A GOOD ARTICLE to use in the water given your moulting fowls to drink is the tincture of iron. It is very handy and cheap, and should be accessible constantly during the critical time when old fowls are changing their plumage. It is strengthening, palatable, and works like a charm in its way as a stomach tonic. A tablespoonful of the tincture to a quart of water is sufficient. To be had at any drug store.—*Poultry Nation*.

HORTICULTURE.

Planting and Managing Fruit Trees.

We regard the following communication, for which we are indebted to "Tom Bigby," as containing very important matters for the orchardist. We know it is best to select the hard, scrubby trees from the nursery to secure hardy, bearing trees; that it is best to plant in the fall; that they should be firmly set in well-drained, porous land; that it is best to prune in fall and winter; that the limbs should be allowed to grow near the ground when pruning; that they should be headed-back from the ends of branches, and that none but cross or interfering branches should be cut from the centre of the trees; whether for peach or other fruit trees.

For the Maryland Farmer.

SELECTING AND PLANTING PEACH TREES.

Messrs. Editors—We would call the attention of your agricultural readers to a mistake often made.—mistakes, rather—for it generally happens that more than one is committed in the same connection.

Purchasers, as a rule, like something to *look at* for money paid, and this desire leads to an error at the outset in purchasing fruit trees. We have frequently seen buyers select the largest peach trees to be found in a nursery, and that too, in direct opposition to the advice of the salesman; take them home and plant without removing a spray; then raise a fuss because they did not thrive.

One year old trees are best for general planting; head back and plant carefully; and if the plants are properly handled, not more than one per cent. need be lost. This is not theory, nor is it new; it is true, from experience, and will bear repeating.

Having bought your tree *head them back* well; no matter what shape you wish them to assume, and secure a good, healthy growth; that is the only way in which plants may be put into shape. Never allow fruit trees to grow in the shape of a Y, unless you desire to see them split; and bear in mind that when a Y shaped tree splits half a tree is gone. In our own practice we believe in heading back.

Peach trees, particularly, to three or four eyes; then each one will produce a shoot; this is the foundation for the head of the future tree, and the nearer the ground the head of fruit trees are kept, the better in almost every respect.

Having got young trees into good growth, don't back and mangle them about, and call it pruning;

nor let them grow wild, and call it the natural habit. Shorten the growth so as to induce the eyes to break down near the base; this will prevent the growth crowding on to the extreme end of the branches, which it will most certainly do, on the let-alone principle, until the fruit is borne so far from the body of the tree that it is quite a difficulty to gather it.

In addition to this, it is usual to place a prop about midway under the limbs, thus converging the branch into a lever, with which to lift the tree out by the roots; the prop being the fulcrum and the fruit the weight; the branch not being strong enough to lift the tree, breaks at the fulcrum; or, in case no prop be used, breaks off at the base; thus, have we often seen young, thrifty orchards broken and mutilated for the want of a little foresight and care.

Clear out all useless sprays growing up and crowding the centre of the tree; all limbs growing in a wrong direction, crowding other limbs, &c.; and in shortening back, always cut to an eye pointing outward; if these things be attended to, at the proper time, there will seldom be a necessity for any implement larger than a pruning knife and chisel. Any one with a will, and a fair share of gumption, may learn to use these tools deftly.

Now a word as to the proper *season for pruning*. With farmers generally the most convenient time is winter; and with one exception, we believe it to be better to do it then. The exception is, when trees are growing too rank and strong, so that the wood will not ripen, in such a case, prune late in July or early in August. It is a good plan, however, when pruning at this season to leave three or four eyes beyond where you wish the next year's growth to take place, for the reason that the uppermost eye is very liable to break—start into growth. The pruning may be done *properly*, late in September, or even in winter. It will now be readily understood why we advise *not too close pruning* in the summer, as if there be any *young growth*, made *after*, it can be removed without injuring the shape of the tree. The reason why summer pruning is recommended for trees in too strong growth, is because the removal of foliage tends to check growth; whilst, if the leaves are allowed to remain on until they fall off, and the wood be then cut back, it only induces stronger wood growth.

We prefer to plant all deciduous trees in the autumn, commencing as soon as the leaves fall freely. We believe in putting trees in firmly, and practice it, too, using a rammer to firm the soil, the same as in setting a post, but not quite to the same extent. We are, of course, very careful not to bruise a root, and this may easily be avoided by keeping sufficient soil upon the roots before firming. Some object to plant in autumn, believing the trees so planted to stand a more unfavorable chance than those planted in spring. In practice, we have never encountered those disadvantages of fall planting so much talked of. Some of the advantages of autumn planting—as we believe—are, the ground is in better condition, and the work may, in consequence, be much better performed; work is not so pressing, on all sides, as in spring; during the winter the ground gets settled well around the trees, so that as soon as weather opens in spring, trees so planted commence growth at once.

It may be objected, that these are mere trifles; perhaps so, but attention or inattention to *small matters* makes or mars our success; and if we were not so frequently reminded, by ocular demonstration, of the fact, that such utter neglect prevails in these *essentials* to successful fruit culture we would certainly not broach the subject. It ought to be well understood, by all persons having fruit trees or likely to have, that *attention* to a few simple matters for the first few years of a tree's life is pretty much all that is necessary, in the way of pruning, &c; but that if this attention be not given at the proper time no after care can compensate for the neglect. Very respectfully,

TOM BIGBY.

MORE FRUIT.—As we drove along the old Bel Air turnpike, to reach the County Fair at that place, we were somewhat surprised at seeing no more fruit trees, in a region so well adapted to the growing of fruit, of all kinds, especially pears and apples.

The markets of Baltimore require annually, many thousands dollars worth of those delicious articles, which are mostly supplied from other States, but which could all be raised in our own State.

PEAR TREE BLIGHT.—The able and elaborate article on the cause and cure, or prevention, of the Pear Tree Blight, published in the November number of the MARYLAND FARMER, seems to be endorsed by and commands much attention among the best informed orchardists. It was originally a Report, read before the Potomac Fruit Growers' Association, by Prof. Brainerd, chairman of their scientific committee.

Planting Trees in the Fall.

The question whether spring or fall is the better season for planting, has been much discussed, and the conclusion reached has generally been, that in Western New York, and similar climates, one is about as good as the other. My experience with hardy fruit and deciduous and ornamental grass is in favor of the fall. It is true that we have an occasional severe winter, when fall planted trees suffer, but these are of rare occurrence.

Last fall, quite late, after the hurry of the season was all over, I planted several hundred dwarf pear trees. After planting, the earth was drawn up around the base, say, six or seven inches above the level of the ground, to give protection to the roots, and stiffen the tree against the force of the wind. May 22, I had the earth around the trees removed to the ground level, and found vigorous new roots, three to five inches, spreading in all directions from the quince stock. The tops are also pushing rapidly, and in the whole planting of 300 trees there is not a failure.

It is easy to see what an advantage these trees have over those planted this spring, even under the most favorable circumstances for the latter. In spring planting, it often happens that a long period of cold whether and drying winds follow the planting and the trees get seriously dried before the growing season opens, or a dry or warm period comes before the roots have acquired vigor enough to sustain the tree under such adverse influences; they either die or linger along feebly all the summer.

We must take some risk in planting at any season, but on the whole, I think the chances are in favor of the fall for hardy, deciduous trees.—*Patrick Barry, Rochester, N. Y.*

TO KEEP APPLES ONE YEAR.—Years ago, when we produced large quantities of fruit, we always kept apples in excellent condition during the entire year. At a recent agricultural convention in Utica, New York, a quantity of fair apples were exhibited, which were plump, fresh and of good flavor, quite as good as the same kind of apples are ordinarily on the approach of spring. The apples had been put up in refuse boxes the year previous, and in the following manner: A layer of dry sawdust was sprinkled at the bottom of the box, and then a layer of apples placed in so that they do not touch each other. Upon this, was placed a layer of sawdust, and so on till the box was filled. The boxes, after being packed in this way, were placed on the wall in the cellar, up from the ground, where they kept perfectly, retaining their freshness and flavor until brought out.—*Ex.*

Pear Tree Blight.

Prof. Jehu Brainerd, of Washington, D. C., has kindly furnished us with the following highly important letter, received by him from Prof. J. P. KIRTLAND, of Cleveland, Ohio, on the above important subject, in response to reading Prof. Brainerd's Report to the Potomac Fruit Growers' Association, and published in the MARYLAND FARMER last month:

EAST ROCKPORT, OHIO, Oct. 28, 1876.

Prof. Jehu Brainerd—Washington, D. C.—Dear Sir: I have recently read your interesting and instructive Report on the Pear Tree Blight. Allow me to congratulate you on having probably discovered the origin and nature of that malady; a malady that has hitherto baffled the investigations of the scientific and practical pomologists.

A knowledge of the pathology of a disease of the human system is often an important advancement toward effecting a cure or a prevention; a remark equally applicable to diseases of the vegetable kingdom.

In the summer of 1812, while pursuing the study of medicine, in Hartford, Connecticut, a low and malignant fever appeared, and spread extensively in that city. Athletic soldiers in the U. S. Cantonment, as well as citizens, were frequently, one hour apparently in the enjoyment of perfect health, and in the next, sinking into the arms of death, perhaps before remedies could be applied.

Coincident with the spreading of that epidemic among the human family, Blight appeared extensively in the pear orchards. Trees were attacked of all ages, some dating back to Provincial times, and of size equaling those occasionally met with at this day, on the banks of the Detroit River, the remains of French planting, in or before the times of Pontiac.

Its attacks were as sudden as those of the sinking fever, and resulted suddenly in either the death of the trees or of extensive impairment.

Public attention was greatly awakened by its ravages, and as ignorance of its cause prevailed, and in want of an explanatory hypothesis, the public generally concluded that it was the same pestilence which walketh in darkness, that was alike laying its heavy hand on the people and the pear tree.

This indefinite hypothesis prevailed for a time, till in succession it was displaced by that of insect depredation. Frost impressions and fungoid poisons. Neither of these suggested any practical means of relief from the evil. Since that period, sixty-four years, I have attentively watched the

progress of the Blight in different and remote parts of our country, and noted numerous facts bearing on the subject.

Your views seem to embrace a well-founded theory of the cause of the disease, which indicates appropriate methods for preventing or counteracting it. More phenomena attending its rise and progress are thereby explained than by any or all the hypotheses hitherto advanced. I am happy to add that my own experience during that long interval of time, trivial as it may have been, sustains their correctness.

If they be correct, of which little doubt can be entertained, it is highly important that they should be extensively diffused among practical pomologists.

No specific is at present known, yet evidences are not wanting, that an energetic and persevering course of management will do much to remedy the evil of this disorder. The cultivator must take into consideration the character and selection of the variety of the fruit (Seckle and Winter Nelis rarely blight) the soil and its consideration in relation to drainage and moisture, special manures, cultivation or non-cultivation of the ground, shading and protection from the sun and from a south and southwestern exposure, mulching, freeing the bodies from old and rough bark, and washing annually with a solution of soda ash, correct pruning of the season's growth in autumn, and pinching off the top of each limb before the formation of the terminal bud in June, and other items too numerous to mention.

Incidentally, it may be added, that the cultivator should learn to gather his fruits at the moment the stem will cleave from the spur, without fracture, and to ripen them in a dry room. Each individual winter or autumn pear must be, immediately after gathering, wrapped in a separate paper, as oranges are preserved, and packed not over three layers deep, in either drawers, boxes or corks, placed in a dry, empty room.

If the rind be allowed to wilt before the wrapping and packing be accomplished, the fine qualities of the variety will never develop.

Bishop Heber wrote, that he found none of the East India fruits as palatable as those of temperate Europe. A Baron d'Anjou, Dix, Lycurgus, or Winter Nelis, thus ripened, will favorably compare with the orange, guava and pine apple of the tropics.

Much is yet to be learned in the art and science of Pear Culture. Very respectfully yours,

JARED P. KIRTLAND.

Advertise in the MARYLAND FARMER.

Mushroom Culture in Cellars.

Any kind of out-house or cellar will answer for the growth of autumn or winter mushrooms. One of the best crops I have ever seen was grown in a cellar at Highgate. From a bed twelve feet long and eight feet wide 160 lbs. of mushrooms were gathered between October and February. Other beds were equally productive and were without artificial heat. They merely occupied a dry dark cellar under the dwelling house. The usual temperature ranged from 45° to 55°, but sometimes it was as low as 40°. The beds were made of short manure from the stables. Previous to use, it was thrown in a heap to heat and get rid of its superfluous steam and moisture. It was then spread out a day or two to dry and cool, and, after that, was thrown together again for a few days. It was then made into beds about sixteen inches deep, and these rendered firm by treading or beating. So soon as the bed becomes well heated, put in the spawn—which should be broken to about the size of small apples. Place this just in the manure, and cover with about two inches of any good garden soil.

Beds thus treated never fail to bear very satisfactorily; in regard to quantity and size. Where there is no regular mushroom house many empty cellars might thus be turned to profitable account.—J. M. to *London Garden*.

GRAPES IN WINTER.—We are every year becoming more successful in keeping grapes long into the winter. To have them for Christmas is a great pleasure, and a pride to have them plump and sweet. There are several methods that have been more or less successful, and those of our readers who have grapes yet on the vines will do well to try keeping a few at least: First, carefully pick the finest bunches and lay them carefully out on tables or boards, and pick out all defective grapes. Then, a very good plan is to put the stems carefully into bottles of water and stop them up, and the moisture keeps the grapes plump and nice. Another plan is to stick the stems into a potato which also preserves them from drying up, then pack in sawdust in boxes. Grapes will also keep very well if carefully packed in layers in tight paper boxes filled in with clear, dry sawdust.—*Lx.*

OLD Kentucky is a highly favored Commonwealth. She has 49,000 square miles of fertile soil, and does not owe a dollar of State debt. It is even named that her tobacco crop is now more than double that of Virginia, and nearly half the crop of the entire country. She raises nearly half the hemp the whole country produces. She has nine millions acres of Virgin forest, and more iron ore than there is in Pennsylvania with 128,189 acres mines of coal and gas. She produces the finest blooded cattle and horses, and mules seem to grow in Kentucky spontaneously. *Lix. Munge.*

Sweet-Potato Vine.

This really desirable vine, says the *American Garden*, for the house, is a rapid grower and is much more delicate in appearance under house culture than when grown out of doors. Select (the earlier the better) a well-ripened tuber of the Red Nansemond variety—said to be a most vigorous grower—eight or ten inches long and four or five inches in diameter. A dark-colored hyacinth glass is a suitable and pretty holder for the potato, but a common glass fruit-can or small earthen jar will do. Fill the vessel with rain water and stand the potato in the mouth of it, allowing only two or three inches of the potato to go down into the water. Set in a warm, bright place to sprout, filling up the holder with water as fast as it evaporates. Probably a great many sprouts will start at once in quick succession; break off all but three or four of these, as your vine will, by so doing, be much longer and more luxuriant. Nothing will now be needed for the perfection of the vine, except to keep the vessel filled with rain water.

SOAP-SUDS FOR GRAPE VINES.—Soap-suds may be used with great advantage for manuring grape vines. Downing says he has seen an Isabella grape-vine produce three thousand fine clusters of well ripened fruit in a season by the liberal use of manure and soap suds from the weekly wash. The effect of soap-suds on other plants is remarkable. A cypress vine that had remained stationary for a fortnight, when about two inches high, immediately began growing after being watered with soap-suds, and grew about six inches in five days.—*Dutchess Farmer*.

HIDE-BOUND FRUIT TREES.—The *Gardeners Monthly* has the following in an article on the way to renovate old and neglected fruit trees: "Trees with long stems exposed to hot suns or drying winds, become what gardeners call 'hide-bound.' That is, the old bark becomes indurated—cannot expand, and the tree suffers much in consequence. Such an evil is usually indicated by gray lichens which feed on the decaying bark. In these cases a washing of weak lye or of limewater is very useful; indeed, where the bark is healthy, it is beneficial thus to wash trees, as many eggs of insects are thereby destroyed. We would, however, again refer to linseed oil as a wash, as far more effective for insects, and would, perhaps, do as well for moss and lichen. After all, these seldom come when trees are well cultivated. It is neglect that makes poor growth, and these lichens."

The Great Election.

For the first time in many years, the final issue of the presidential-campaign is not absolutely settled by the morning of the sixth day after the polling. It is agreed that the Democrats have carried the following States for Mr. Tilden:

	Majority.	Electoral Votes
Alabama,.....	35,000	10
Arkansas,.....	30,000	6
Connecticut,.....	2,300	6
Delaware,.....	2,500	3
Georgia,.....	75,000	11
Indiana,.....	5,500	15
Kentucky,.....	75,000	12
Maryland,.....	15,000	8
Mississippi,.....	30,000	8
Missouri,.....	36,000	15
New-Jersey,.....	11,000	9
New-York,.....	32,000	35
North Carolina,.....	12,000	10
Tennessee,.....	40,000	12
Texas,.....	40,000	8
Virginia,.....	75,000	11
West Virginia,.....	15,000	5

This gives him 184 electoral votes, which is just one less than the number needed to elect. On the other hand, the Republicans have certainly carried the following for Gov. Hayes:

	Majority.	Electoral Votes.
California,.....	5,400	6
Colorado,.....	1,200	3
Illinois,.....	23,000	21
Iowa,.....	40,000	11
Kansas,.....	25,000	5
Maine,.....	14,000	7
Massachusetts,.....	40,000	13
Michigan,.....	10,000	11
Minnesota,.....	12,000	5
Nebraska,.....	10,000	3
Neveda,.....	1,000	3
New-Hampshire,.....	3,000	5
Ohio,.....	6,000	22
Oregon,.....	1,200	3
Pennsylvania,.....	15,000	29
Rhode Island,.....	10,000	4
Vermont,.....	23,000	5
Wisconsin,.....	5,000	10

This gives him 166 electoral votes; and the issue turns on the result in Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina. If these three doubtful States go unitedly for Hayes, he is elected. If Tilden gets one of them, *he* is the man.

The new House of Representatives, as far as can figured at present, will contain 147 Democrats to 143 Republicans—an apparent Republican gain of 66.

As to State officers, they were elected in the following States; including a governor in each case, except Iowa and Nevada: Republican—Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska and Nevada: Democratic—Connecticut, Missouri, New-York, North Carolina and Tennessee; doubtful—Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina.

In our own State, the Democrats have the following counties, the Republicans carrying the rest: Albany, Chemung, Columbia, Greene, Hamilton, Kings, Lewis, New-York, Niagara, Orange, Otsego, Queens, Rennselaer, Richmond, Rockland, Schoenectedy, Schoharie, Schuyler, Seneca, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester. Seventeen Republican Congressmen are elected, and sixteen Democratic. The Assembly will consist of 72 Republicans and 56 Democrats.—*Country Gentleman*.

The political aspect has considerably changed, and the results very uncertain, since the above was written; and if we wait patiently, we shall see the finality sometime.

Great Exhibitions.

Upon the close of our great Centennial Exhibition, the *Chicago Tribune* gives the following tables:

It appears that during the 159 days in which the Exhibition was open, the aggregate number of visitors was 9,907,125—greater than at any of the International Exhibitions, with the exception of that at Paris in 1867, at which the attendance is claimed to have been a trifle greater than at Philadelphia. But the Paris Exposition for that year was kept open 210 days.

The following table, giving the number of visitors at each of the International Exhibitions, shows how, in this regard, the Centennial ranks:

1851, London,.....	6,039,195
1855, Paris,.....	5,162,330
1862, London,.....	6,211,103
1867, Paris,.....	10,000,000
1873, Vienna,.....	7,254,687
1876, Philadelphia,.....	9,907,125

In a financial point of view, the Centennial was no less a success, the aggregate receipts exceeding those of any of the International Exhibitions by over one million dollars, as the figures, giving the receipts of each, reduced to our currency, show:

London, 1851.....	\$2,530,000
Paris, 1855.....	640,500
London, 1862.....	2,300,000
Paris, 1867.....	2,822,932
Vienna, 1873, (about).....	2,000,000
Philadelphia, 1876.....	3,850,000

These were the receipts from admissions alone. Besides, the receipts of the Centennial from sales of concessions amounted, in round numbers, to a million and a half.

The number of exhibitors was 30,864. The following figures show how, in respect to the number of exhibitors, the Centennial Exhibition compares with the other International Expositions:

London, 1851.....	13,937
New York, 1853.....	4,685
Paris, 1855.....	20,839
London, 1862.....	28,653
Paris, 1867.....	42,217
Philadelphia,.....	30,864

But the most unexpected feature of the exhibit is, that instead of sinking money, our Centennial Exhibition actually paid all expenses.

Scene, a butcher's stand. Butcher: "Come, Jack, be lively now; break the bones in Mr. Williams chops and put Mr. Smith's ribs in the basket for him." Jack (briskly): "All right, sir; just as soon as I've sawed off Mrs. Murphy's leg."

Somebody gave Paddy Finnegan a pickled egg yesterday. Paddy bit it in two opened his mouth, made a face and said: "Be me sowl, I'll go before any judge or jury in the wurld, and take me oath that the hin that laid that egg had the dys-pipsey or heartburn."

Grinding Corn with the Cob.

We are pleased to publish the following sensible article from a reliable correspondent:

For the Maryland Farmer.

WHITE HALL, VA., Nov. 7th, 1876.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 30th ulto. was duly received. In answer to your inquiries as to the "Young America" Corn and Cob Mill, it gives me great pleasure to be able to say, that it is a most satisfactory machine in every respect. Simple, durable and strong, it does most excellent work with comparative ease to a team. At first, I used but one horse for ordinary grinding, and it did not seem to distress him much; but of late, desiring to grind both finer and faster, I have used two mules. I grind once a week; my *modus apperandi* being to place a wagon load of corn near the mill, and then one hand and his team does the grinding, feeds the mill and carries the ground corn into the adjacent stable feed-room.

Working in this way, I grind about (15) fifteen bushels of corn and cob per hour. One-third more can be ground by having an extra hand to keep, to fill and carry away, because when one hand only does the work, the team will occasionally stop when he is carrying away the ground corn. When the corn and cob are ground together, the fineness of grinding is limited, because if not very *dry* the cob cannot be wholly reduced to powder; at same time the corn itself will be ground so small that there will not be a twentieth part of it but will pass through the cockle seive of a wheat fan, fine enough, in my opinion, for all purposes.

I fed horses, mules, sheep, cattle (exclusive of cows) hogs, and sometimes chickens, on the corn and cob so ground, and they eat it greedily; using shelled corn, I can make very good meal, with which I feed my dogs and chickens, &c. The horses and mules were at first a little shy of the ground corn and cob, but soon took to it. After a time, I had the curiosity to try whether they preferred the whole corn. Both were placed in the trough together, and I will do them the justice to say that they did not show any discrimination, for they eat both, but they *dispatched the ground stuff first*. What principally induced me to get the mill was the evident great waste in corn from the inability of the animals' stomachs to digest it—more especially evident in oxen, hogs and sheep. To remedy this, I tried meal, but found it too heating. I am pleased to be able to say, however, that "Young America" entirely removed that difficulty, and at the present moment my whole stock—notably my horses and mules—are fatter and in better health than before I used ground food; or, rather,

food ground in this way. One thing I particularly noticed: I have a mule much subject to colic—has an easily irritated stomach, in fact. In a busy season I would occasionally run out of ground food, and would feed whole corn a time or two.—Just so sure as I did so, my mule complained, and the sulphuric ether and laudanum bottles were in requisition.

"Young America" has still another claim, however, on my gratitude. I have fully as much stock this year as I have had for five years back, and I have used thirty barrels of corn less; this goes mainly to the credit of the mill, for at first I fed (taking the horses as an example) the usual ten ears of corn, only ground instead of whole, and found, after a time, that they did not eat it all, and was afraid they had formed a distaste for it. Reducing the quantity, however, I soon found they liked it as well as before—but I was over-feeding. I am no *latter day* convert to the relative merits of ground versus unground food—nay, cooked versus uncooked food, for the matter of that, were the cooking practicable on a large scale with a scarcity of labor.

Cooked food is, however, beyond the reach of most of us, but with such a machine as the "Young America" ground food is attainable by the great majority. I do not think there can be a doubt in the mind of any one who has well considered the subject, that with such food as Indian corn, grinding is not only advantageous, but almost absolutely necessary. I do not mean to say that there is a great deal of nutriment in the cob, but there must be a little at least, and then it performs a very important part in the animal economy by assisting to distend the stomach, without which it cannot properly perform its functions. I think the grinding an almost absolute necessity of waste as to be avoided and health maintained. For example, let any farmer take a handful of hard, flinty corn and examine its nearly impenetrable outer covering, and reflect what a powerful stomach, and what an immense quantity of its solvent fluid, must be necessary to digest even a part of it. What a great waste there must be from the total inability of the animals' stomachs (as we can see every day by their droppings) wholly to digest it in its unbroken state. And what a great loss that waste is in these days of poor lands and small crops, to say nothing of the health and consequent longevity and usefulness of working stock, and the rapid and satisfactory laying-on of beef, mutton and pork; and I opine their reflections would leave them to have as little hesitation in adopting the grinding principle, and so saving their pockets and improving their stock, as I have in saying that the "Young America" Corn and Cob Crusher is a thoroughly good and reliable machine for that purpose.

In haste, yours faithfully,

GEO. S. MITCHELL.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons, Baltimore, Md.

THE
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A STANDARD MAGAZINE.

EZRA WHITMAN,
Proprietor

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Col. J. W. Ware,	Dr. Jehu Brainerd,

Subscribe Early.

Now is the time to send in your names and money for the next year's volume of the MARYLAND FARMER.

We are reminded of this item by remarks in the letters of those who have *already* sent in their subscriptions, adding that they don't wish to be late. It is also time to begin making up clubs for the \$1.00 rate of pay.

Of all things, what is the best?

Several times the question has been asked us—what is the best means of improving the capacities and increasing the profits of Farming, in Maryland?

We should like to receive brief and pointed articles, from our readers, in all quarters, giving their carefully formed views on this important subject, that we may enlighten our subscribers with all the best facts attainable, on this all-important subject,

How to Improve Worn Land.

Under this head we shall, from time to time, give such facts, instructions and experiments, as we are satisfied are reliable, and will be useful in accomplishing the very important end of restoring our worn-out lands to rich productiveness, and will be thankful for all successful and useful statements. First and foremost let there be as much land as possible plowed, *deeply*, this winter, for planting and sowing next spring; sow with spring oats and rye, and seed down with clover, and put on the grain soon as up 10 to 15 bushels of plaster to the acre; but let the land be well harrowed and rolled before seeding.

FALL AND WINTER PLOWING.—The plowing can be more easily done in fall and winter, when teams are stronger, than in the spring; then, there is less hurry, and it can be better done, while the frosts acting on the soil is a benefit to it.

Besides, then *it is done*, while some accident or emergency may arise to prevent the doing all that is wanted in the spring; every consideration counsels to do all the plowing you can in fall and winter.

BEAUTIFUL WHEAT.—Hon. John T. Welty, of Smithburg, Washington County, has brought to our office some fine specimens of wheat, in the head, raised by him, of two varieties—the bearded "Mediterranean" and the bald "Fultz;" he had 30 bushels to the acre on 34 acres, and it was sowed after corn. His place is near the top of the mountains, and on lime rock. He is a *deep plowing* farmer.

This large yield is as creditable as the small yield of 10 bushels per acre is discreditable, to Maryland farming; we like to get these facts.

MISTAKE.—In the November number of this magazine, a mistake occurred in a notice, headed "A Good Chance," wherein it was said, "50 per cent," commission would be paid to canvassers for advertisements; whereas, it *should be 25 per cent*. commission will be paid, which is really good pay.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE.—We have received Vick's Floral Guide for 1877; it surpasses any of its predecessors in beauty of design, and is full of instruction and handsome pictures; price only 25 cents.

POULTRY AND DOGS.—The dog fanciers will hold their exhibition this month in connection with the Poultry Show, in Maryland Institute Hall, when splendid prizes will be given, in various classes.

Agricultural Congress.

This Association held its fifth annual session, during the second and third weeks of September last, at the Centennial Grounds, and unanimously passed the following eminently proper resolutions, and which should receive the prompt and decisive action of Congress at its coming session, and provide for a Cabinet Officer of Agriculture, equal to other departments :

At the Fifth Annual Session of the National Agricultural Congress, the following resolutions, offered by Beverly A. Martin, of Georgia, were unanimously adopted, September 14th, 1876 :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the National Agricultural Congress, that the agricultural interest of the country is one of, if not *the most*, important in the Union; and should receive the fostering care and protection of the Government.

Resolved, That we urge upon Congress the justice and the wisdom of creating a position in the Cabinet upon an equal footing as to rights, privileges, &c., to be called the "Secretary of Agriculture," whereby the interests of agriculturists may be fully represented and consulted, as well as the Monied, War, Naval and other interests, less important than agriculture.

Resolved, That we suggest to the State and county agricultural societies throughout the Union, that they petition Congress to this effect, to wit :— That the agricultural interests be represented in the National Cabinet, and by a successful farmer.

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to the President of the United States Senate and the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, with the request to lay them before the bodies over which they preside.

"How much does it cost to plow an acre of land?" is a question recently revived by some of the agricultural papers. The cost varies with locality and circumstances, and we should like to have our readers send in estimates that they may be compared when published. We can settle the question very satisfactorily in this way. Please send in estimates.—*Ohio Farmer*.

Also send like statements to MARYLAND FARMER.

WEATHER REPORT.—The weather report from Signal Corps, for October, is received, and shows rainfall for the month to be 1.80 inches; against 3.15 for previous years. Average temperature for the month was 53.0; against 56.3, previous years, being less than average warm.

Agricultural Papers.

No single farmer knows every thing about his business, though every farmer, most likely, knows some things right well; and the agricultural paper goes to him, not so much to tell him what he already knows as to tell him what some one else does know which he does not; and this is one mission of the MARYLAND FARMER; try it, and you will prove the fact.

"Every agriculturist knows how to plow, sow and harvest, but every one does not know how to adapt tillage and seed exactly to climate and locality. And it is not easy for a single individual in one locality to learn, to any considerable extent, from his own experience, principally because that is too limited. But in reading the experience of others, in other localities, he gets a broader knowledge than is possible within the limits of his own operations. And this is the sum and substance, the beginning and end, of the much-derided book farming. And is not this book farming quite as important as plow farming? And are not agricultural papers quite as important in their sphere, as any other factors in successful farm operations?"

MARYLAND'S DAY.—The 19th of October was set apart as the Maryland day at the Centennial, which was jointly celebrated by the sister States, Delaware and Virginia, and the District of Columbia. A chivalrous Tournament, with a military procession made up the added attractions of the day. Number of attendants was second only to the Pennsylvania day, exceeding New York, being about 162,000. It was a pleasant day and all were happy.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.—It has long been our opinion that the office of President of the United States should be voted for directly by the people, the same as for Governor, or for members of the Legislature, instead of choosing electors to cast the vote. And we believe, also, that postmasters should be voted for and elected by the people where they are to hold office. It would secure better justice, and result in less fraud in returns.

POULTRY AND DOG SHOW.—The Maryland Poultry and Dog show will be held in this city during the last week in December, instant. The large hall of the Maryland Institute has been engaged for the purpose. A large and rich premium list has been prepared.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—The National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry held its tenth regular annual session, at Chicago, during the third week in November last.

True place to Advertise.

*Monthly papers—Agricultural and others—*are the best advertising mediums, for several reasons, chiefly, because they are more completely read than those oftener received; they are read at more leisure, and read all through, advertisements and all, more than with daily papers.

Mr. D. D. T. Moore, in his circular, put it right, as follows:

"As a class, Agricultural Journals are *Superior as Advertising Mediums*, for the following cogent reasons: I. They circulate largely among the most intelligent, enterprising, and wealthy classes of our provincial population—people who believe in and are able to purchase new and good things. II. They are more carefully and thoroughly read, and by more persons than any other class of papers—a single copy often reaching from five to ten families. III. They are usually either filed or bound for future reference and hence their advertisements are of far greater value than those in papers that are read but once. IV. They, as a rule, devote only limited space to advertising, and hence the cards and announcements given, more readily attract attention and secure perusal. V. They are not only taken by the better class of Farmers, Horticulturists, Stock Breeders, etc., etc., but are read by tens of thousands of City, Village and Suburban Capitalists, Merchants, Manufacturers, Professional Men, etc., from Canada and the Gulf. VI. They are generally neatly printed, in good style and form, and the fact they usually exclude all deceptive or fraudulent advertisements renders them of special value to legitimate and honorable Business Men."

"All shrewd business men know the value of keeping their cards continually before the public, so that when the great public are ready to purchase, the familiar names of those Merchants are uppermost in their minds. A standing CARD in a paper always proves a good investment."

The MARYLAND FARMER is one of the very best of this class, going into nearly every State, and every county and city of some States, so that it is widely read.

COMPTON LAD.—This premium-taking Bull is now the property of Col. John Merryman, the distinguished Hereford cattle breeder, at "Hayfields," near this city,

TOOLS AND IMPLEMENTS are injured more by lying out, exposed to the weather than all the wear of fair using—the iron rusts, the wood decays, and the whole thing goes to decay; then, when wanted, they can't be used.

NOTHING IN VAIN.—Poodle dogs have their uses. A lady who kept one of the curly abominations, recently lost her pet, and called upon a policeman to find it. The next day the officer came with the dog, which was very wet and dirty. The lady was overjoyed, and asked forty silly questions, among others, "Where did you find the dear baby?" "Why, marm, a man had him tied to a pole and was washing windows with him."

NEPENTHES.—A genus of plants, including the monkey-cup, having a cylindrical urn attached to the leaf, like a long cup, partly covered with a lid, and containing a sweetish fluid; it is sometimes called pitcher plant; flies and insects get into it, stick fast with the fluid and die there; with its pendent cup-like leaves and small flowers along the middle stem, it is very curious and beautiful,

SEMI-TROPICAL.—This handsome and able magazine, from Jacksonville, Florida, continues to reach us, promptly, every month; and we are grieved to learn that ex-Gov. Reed, its accomplished editor, has been suffering with sickness some two months, but we hope for his timely recovery to health and a return to his interesting duties.

SHELTER STOCK.—Now is the time to prepare comfortable shelter for all your stock; the animals will require enough less feed to keep them in good condition if warmly housed to pay the cost of housing.

COL. HILL.—We had a pleasant visit, last month, from Col. C. Hill, of Prince George's.

He has designed, an improved and cheap *Stump Puller*, which appears to be a desirable devise, if once put into practice.

THE AMERICAN CULTIVATOR.—Such is the name of a large, handsome weekly paper, just received from Boston, Massachusetts, which has grown out upon the old Boston Cultivator; it is well filled with substantial matter, and we are glad to add it to our exchange list, as it desires, wishing it continued prosperity.

NOT PAYING.—Savings Banks which do not pay, and farmers who do not pay their hands, are about as bad as those who do not pay their newspaper bills; and worse, stop without paying up arrearages—for the paper.

TRUE ECONOMIST.—This is the name of a new and useful little weekly journal, published in New York, at \$1 a year; devoted to practical matters,

Dairymen's Association.

By the Rockville papers we see that the farmers of Montgomery County are to form a county dairymen's association, as follows:

The meeting of the Montgomery County Dairymen's Association will be held at Sandy Spring Lyceum, on Monday, November 27th, at 7 o'clock, P. M. All interested in dairying are invited to attend.

The necessity for developing the dairy interest of the county is obvious to any one who will give the subject even a moment's attention. The fact that Western grain, hay and beef can be brought to the Eastern markets and sold for less than it costs us to raise them, at once demonstrates the futility of attempting to compete in the production of these articles. Our proximity to the markets of Baltimore and Washington gives us the advantage in producing the more perishable articles of consumption; among these, none are more profitable than butter and milk.

The object of the Association is to promote the dairy interests in all its branches. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped that the citizens of the county will recognize the importance of sustaining what may be made so valuable an institution.

C. F. KIRK, *Secretary.*

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—We have received this excellent publication, now so ably edited by our old townsman, D. S. Curtiss. Mr. Curtiss is an able writer, and his pen has won many laurels in the West, as well as in Washington. We are pleased to recognize him in his new place, and trust that his merits, as an agricultural writer, may be duly appreciated and rewarded. When we once become free from the confusion of the election, we shall be apt to pluck some ripe sheaves from brother Curtiss' abundant harvest of experimental lore.—*Madison Wis. Patriot.*

CHEESE.—The tabular exhibit of trade at New York for last week, and the corresponding week last year, is as follows:

	Receipts.	Exports.	Gold.	Cable.	rice
Nov. 13, 1875,	51,743	9,528	114½	60	13½
Nov. 11, 1876	38,093	18,074	109¾	60	13¾

While it is not now probable that cheese will soon advance rapidly, or to a much higher level, any tendency to decline due to accumulation seems checked.—*Utica Herald.*

NUMISMATICS; the science of coins and medals; and *numismatist*; one who collects and is skilled in various coins, of different nations; when we have more of them in circulation people will take greater interest in this article and subject,

A POUND OF BUTTER FROM 13 1-3 POUNDS OF MILK.—A thoroughbred Jersey, belonging to Edward Edgerton, shown at the recent Delhi Fair, at Delaware County, N. Y., was reported to have yielded, between the 12th of February and the 1st of July, 3,748 lbs. of milk, from which was made 281 lbs. of butter, or an average of 1 lb. of butter from 13.33 lbs. of milk, which is equal to 7½ per cent. of butter; when the percentage of butter from average milk is less than 4 per cent. Since July 1st, this cow had given an average 20 of lbs. of milk per day, rendering it quite probable that she might produce, before she dried up, 500 lbs. of butter. The ration of this cow is reported to have been hay and three-quarts of corn and oatmeal, mixed in equal parts, until middle of May, then only grass. A sister of this cow, at the same fair, was reported to yield 1 lb. of butter from 15 lbs. of milk. These are the kind of cows dairymen should strive for. A herd of ten such cows would make a dairyman's fortune.—*National Live Stock Journal.*

AN IMPORTANT STEP.—A movement is on foot in New York City to provide for frequent and regular official reports of the earnings and expenses of the various corporations represented at the stock exchange in that city. The stock exchange represents the vast majority of both investors and speculators, and its members are certainly entitled to full, prompt and complete information concerning the securities which are dealt in. This contemplates free access to the books of railway corporations, and is an important step in the right direction.—*Ex.*

A QUICK PUDDING.—Pour a pint of boiling water on ten tablespoonsful of grated bread crumbs; let them stand ten minutes; then add the yolks of four eggs well beaten, six tablespoonsful of sugar, and two of butter; season with lemon extract; stir well, add the whites of the eggs previously beaten to a stiff froth; pour into a buttered pudding dish, and bake quickly. To be eaten with cream and sugar.—*Ex.*

AMERICAN carcass beef was quoted in Glasgow, Scotland, for the week ending October 28th, by Messrs. John Swan & Sons, extensive cattle salesmen in that city, as follows: Hind quarters, 6 1-2 to 6 3-4 d.; forequarters, 4 1-2 to 5 1-2 d. per lb.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The August Maryland Farmer contains much of interest to every tiller of the soil, from the plantation farmer to the cultivation of a squire of cabbage. 1,50 a year.—*S. Michaels' Comet.*

Species, Varieties and Breeds.

These terms are not unfrequently confounded or misused, sometimes through carelessness, conveying a wrong impression. A species is practically an invariable, unchangeable type, perpetuating its important and distinctive characteristics naturally. We say practically invariable because though species change somewhat in long periods of time, yet during the life of the observer, the modifications are so slight as to be imperceptible. A variety is, as the term implies, a variation, and affects individuals, designating those which present some peculiarities which may be perpetuated by selection and careful breeding, yet usually showing a tendency to return to the original type. The term breed, as ordinarily used, is synonymous with variety.—A strain is simply a number of individuals from the same stock, not only possessing the same distinctive features, but drawing them from a common source. As examples, a poultry fancier may keep two species of ducks, the Muscovy and Rouen; he may have several varieties or breeds of gallinaceous fowls, as the Light and Dark Brahmas, Buff Cochins, Black Spanish, and he may be noted for possessing a superior strain of either of these. Sometimes the term "breed" is used instead of *strain*. Crosses between species are generally sterile; crosses between varieties are always fertile. *Poultry World*.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.—At a meeting of the Botanical Congress, of Brussels, the question of sap and its circulation was debated. The general conclusions arrived at were: 1. That the substances in the soil made use of as food by the plant, are absorbed separately by the root fibers. 2. That each nutritive substance circulates separately and independently, according to circumstances, and the particular requirements of the plant or organ. 3. That the roots have the power of dissolving solid matter in the soil, and absorbing the solution. 4. That the application of the word sap must not be restricted, as is usually the case, seeing that the fluid in question is not uniform in composition, nor definite in its flow as to direction, intensity, &c., but varies according to circumstances.—*Ex.*

HORRID.—The New York *Sun*, in a recent editorial upon "Drinking among Fashionable Women," says: It is undoubtedly true that many of our women of fashionable society are given to drinking champagne, and even spirituous liquors. The practice, also, is growing. Within the last twenty years the freedom with which women drink wines and other liquors has become greater and greater.

CHEAP AND WARM MITTENS.—During a period of more than thirty years past we have been accustomed to make cheap and durable mittens in the following manner, to be worn when performing all sorts of out of door work. A good sheepskin is purchased for about one dollar, which has been tanned with the wool on. The wool, of course, is short—not more than half an inch in length. A sheepskin of the medium size will make from three to four pairs of mittens, as per the size of the hands. A pattern was first made out of stiff brown paper. The paper thumb piece must be neatly fitted to the pattern. Then the leather will fit the thumb hole. One will answer for both mittens if the leather is turned over after one mitten has been cut out. Sometimes the mittens are made with the wool outward, and sometimes the wool is inside.

When mittens are to be used for hauling wood, stone, lumber and other things which are liable to wet them, the leather is smeared with a coat of coal tar, which must be dried in before the fire. A coat of coal tar will prevent the leather from becoming wet like a piece of wet cloth, and it will also make the mittens wear like horn. Apply tar only to the parts that are most exposed to contact with the materials to be handled.

In lieu of sheepskin we have sometimes employed tanned calfskin. Mittens will keep hands much warmer than gloves. Procure a Glover's needle of triangular shape, let the edges of the leather be wetted before the mittens are sewed, employ strong thread well waxed with beeswax, and the mittens will render excellent service.—*N. Y. Herald*.

A NEW DWELLING.—We are glad to learn that our friend, Capt. R. Wade, is having a handsome dwelling erected on his farm, near Port Tobacco. The Captain is an energetic and wide-awake man, and has been quite fortunate in securing the services of Mr. S. C. Norris, who is a No. 1 mechanic.

Encourage every one, especially new men, to come and settle among you, particularly those who are worthy and active, whether they have capital or not. Their labor is worth money. Those who have capital will buy lots and build houses, or tear down and remodel old ones. Go to work and stimulate every legitimate enterprise by giving it all the encouragement you can.— *Md. Independent*.

CLOSING CRACKS IN CAST IRON STOVES.—Good wood ashes are to be sifted through a fine sieve, to which is to be added the same quantity of clay, finely pulverized, together with a little salt; this mixture is to be moistened with water enough to make a paste and the crack of the stove filled with it; the cement does not peel off or break away, and assumes an extreme degree of hardness after being heated; the stove must be cool when the application is made; the same substance may be used in setting the plates of a stove, or in fitting stove pipes, serving to render all the joints perfectly tight.

Balky Horses.

The following devices have been successfully tried to accomplish the desired end ;

Tying a string around the horse's ear close to the horse's head.

Hitching the horse to the single-tree by means of a cord instead of the tugs; the cord fastened to the horse's tail.

Filling the mouth full of some disagreeable substance.

Tying a stout twine around the leg just below the knee and then removing it when he has traveled some distance.

Never whip a balky horse, for the more he is whipped the crazier he will become. Let everything be done gently, for boisterous words only confuse him and make him worse. Treat him in the mild manner that you would a crazy man, and you would succeed.

BALTIMORE AND THE WEST.—General James A. Singleton, of Quincy, Illinois, was at Guy's hotel yesterday. The object of his visit to Baltimore was to confer with the officials of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, in accordance with a resolution adopted at a meeting of the manufacturers and jobbers' association of Quincy, held on the 16th instant, and designed to promote closer commercial relations between that city and Baltimore. The general was very cordially received by several of the prominent business men of Baltimore, with whom he dined at Guy's. He visited Vice President King at Camden Station, and had an interview with him upon the subject. Mr. King assured him that the subject would receive their careful consideration and every effort be made to further the design. It is the purpose of the citizens of Quincy to build a railroad to Beardstown, fifty miles distant, and the nearest connecting point from their city with the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, their purpose being to obtain direct communication with Baltimore. General Singleton left yesterday for Philadelphia.—*Gazette*.

HANOVER, PA., January 6, 1876.

GENTS.—In reply to yours of the 5th instant, I would say that I have ground eighteen bushels of corn and cob with the Young America Mill in one hour, and can do it with ease, providing the corn is dry, and make it fine enough for any feeding purposes. The majority of our farmers grind shelled corn with the mill, and also grind rye for horse chop, and corn for meal, but what quantity per hour I cannot say. Yours, truly,

WM. J. YOUNG.

FIVE MILLION MORE FARMERS WANTED.—In an editorial of Septembers 5, you struck the key-note of a great and practical theme. In the United States, to-day, we should have at least five million more farmers. We have too many mechanics, altogether too many merchants, peddling carried to a ridiculous extent, and five times too many professional men. Manufacturing is over-done,—farming cannot be. Women might aid in its lighter parts. There is no other occupation in which the old and feeble can do a little to so good advantage. Farming is the most peaceful, healthful, soothing employment ever followed. How many irritated editors there are, who should sell out their little papers to large concerns, and flee to the plains and hills. Every blessing would go with them and their households. On the farm is the paradise for childhood. For thirty years of my life I saw agriculture undergoing disgrace. It is now only just beginning to recover its proper position and receive the broad enlightenment it needeth.—*Springfield Republican*.

In great part, the above is correct; at least, so far as that many, many more farmers are needed, and better ones, too; farmers who would till less land, do it much better, obtain much larger yields and secure greater profits for their labors; while, at the same time, consumers could have their bread and meat at less price; for it is an indisputable fact, that with thorough, calculating systems grain and stock can be produced at one-third less cost, than the now average results, and at the same time, leave a larger profit to the producers.

This is evident from the fact, that in very many instances, all over the country, there are farmers who get large yield at much larger profits.

A horse-doctor was brought up in the supreme court as a witness. His replies to the numerous questions offered were rendered in an exceedingly low tone, and one of the members of the bar at last spoke out sharply that he must reply so that he could be understood, or he could not proceed. Judge Peters then said: "I suppose that the trouble arises out of the habit of speaking low in the sick room."—*Bangor Commercial*.

RING'S DANGEROUS.—One day last week, a colored woman of this city, pierced the ears of her ten-year old child for the purpose of placing rings therein. Tetanus supervened, and she died Friday.—*Id. Gazette*.

Three years ago, two young ladies of Oakland, Cal., started a bee farm at Los Angeles, and this season they have sent 3,500 pounds of honey to market.

Meteorological Record for October.

Maximum temp. on the 6th.....55.00 degs.
Minimum " on the 15th.....30.00 "
Mean " of the month.....48.48 "

Since 1870 inclusive the mean temperature of October has been as follows :

1870.....	56.00 degs.
1871.....	56.03 "
1872.....	54.06 "
1873.....	54.23 "
1874.....	53.76 "
1875.....	52.66 "
1876.....	48.48 "

Hence, the last year has been the coldest October I have any record of. Rainfall 1.99 inches. Only for the excessive rains of September we should be suffering from drought.

First frost of the season on the 8th, ice first formed on the 12th. First snow of the season on the night of the 14th or morning of the 15th. The 15th was probably the coldest October day I have any record of: mean temperature 32.5 degrees.

Characteristics of the month, cold, cloudy, misty, with little rain.

Oakland School.

G. G. C.

—*Harf. Democrat.*

THE UTILITY OF LEAVES.—Every person conversant with vegetable philosophy, is aware that the all-important requisite in the growth of fine fruit, is a good supply of big, vigorous, healthy leaves. A tree which is kept defoliated for a single season must die; and fruit growing upon branches which are deprived of their leaves cannot ripen—examples of which are furnished by the instant cessation of growth and ripening of fruit upon trees which become stripped by leaf blight. In one instance, a dense mass of plums remained half grown and flavorless for several weeks, in consequence of the premature dropping of the foliage—a second crop of leaves, three weeks afterward, effected the completion of the growth and their ripening to honied sweetness. — *Farmers' Home Journal.*

THE *Springfield Republican* says:—Apples are a drug in western Massachusetts. In Franklin county, cider apples sell for 10 cents a bushel; the best eating varieties at 75 cents a barrel, at Athol, and for \$1.50 at wholesale in Springfield; and, to crown all, a Monson man recently sold 300 bushels of apples for \$3. There is a general belief that apples will not keep as well as usual, the coming year, on account of the drought and intense heat of the past summer.

OUT EARLY.—By the 15th instant, fully three-fourths of the cotton crop of this county will have been gathered, and many an old lien, note and mortgage, be left unsatisfied. — *Marion Star.*

EXTERMINATE CATERPILLARS.—To exterminate caterpillars on the trees, they may be sprinkled with a solution of one part of sulphide of potassium in 500 parts of water. This, it is said, will kill the insects, and do no harm to the trees.

—Sulphate of ammonia is an excellent liquid to apply to verbenas and other flowers, giving to the foliage a dark green, luxuriant and healthy appearance. It is economical, clean and easily applied. Prepare it in the evening before using, by dissolving one ounce of ammonia in two gallons of water. It may be applied with safety about once a week.

—Scatter your coal ashes under the plum and cherry trees from two to three inches thick as far out as the limbs extend, and you will find it a great preventive to the ravages of the curculio. Also mulch the currant and gooseberries heavily with it. Peaches and cherries require a dry soil, not so much as apple and pear trees.—*Ex.*

HAWKS.—To keep hawks from preying upon poultry, go to the tin shop and get a lot of tin scraps, tie them in bunches with a stout cord, hang them on poles so that they will dangle in the sunshine. Hawks cannot stand the glitter of the tin, and will not come near. I hung out one small bunch of scrap tin near my poultry yard this spring, and we have not lost a chicken yet by hawks, with which we used to be troubled very much.

CARROTS INSTEAD OF EGGS.—An exchange says, "It is not generally known that boiled carrots, when properly prepared, form an excellent substitute for eggs in puddings. They must, for this purpose, be boiled and mashed, and passed through a coarse cloth or hair sieve strainer. The pulp is then introduced among the other ingredients of the pudding, to the total omission of eggs. A pudding made up in this way is much lighter than where eggs are used, and is much more palatable. On the principle of economy, this fact is worthy of notice and application.

PLANT TREES.—The season of the year is now approaching when those who wish to set out shade and fruit trees, should make arrangements to have it attended to. There is no more economical way of beautifying one's premises—and we may also say of adding value to them—than by planting trees that afford pleasant shade or yield fine fruit. *Frederick Examiner.*

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—One of the best agricultural monthlies published is the Maryland Farmer. The October number is on our table, and is filled with matter useful to the farmer.—*Somerset Herald.*

BALTIMORE DRINKING PLACES.—The Baltimore *American* gives figures to show that that city has more drinking places in proportion to population than any other city in the Union. With 300,000 population it has 2,000 saloons, or a drinking place for every 150 of its inhabitants.

New York with a population approximating 1,000,000, has 5,700 saloons, or one to every 175 of its inhabitants. Chicago, naughty, wicked Chicago, with nearly 500,000 population, has about 2,000 saloons, or one to every 250 inhabitants. Boston with 350,000 inhabitants, has only 1,200 saloons, or one to every 291 inhabitants. Cincinnati, with about 325,000 population, and its lager beer element comes pretty close to Baltimore, with 1,200 saloons, or one to every 155 inhabitants, and Philadelphia shows with a population of about 600,000 2,700 saloons, or one to every 220 inhabitants.

We learn that we are to have a steamer on the Wicomico at an early day—a propeller we are told.

We are informed that a considerable reduction has been made in the freight tariff of the Delaware and Eastern Shore railroads. This is good news, if it should be kept to the next season.—*Salisbury Advertiser*.

SUCCESSFUL SHEEP RAISING.—Last year Mr. John T. Ross, of Loudon county, bought \$900 worth of sheep, among them 235 ewes. These he divided at lambing time into four flocks, which he watched with tender care, and the result is that he raised 278 lambs, and for the lambs and the wool he obtained \$1,246, or \$138.44 for each \$100 invested.—*Virginia Sentinel*.

BROWN MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—We, last month, had a pleasant visit from Mr. Brown, the chief of this excellent manufacturing company, located in Zanesville, Ohio. They are manufacturers of superior plows, and some other implements, and are fair, reliable business men.

THE first of the new crop of the South Carolina rice has been received at New York. The crop has been delayed by rains, but the prospects indicate a yield in excess of any previous year.

RIDING 160 MILES IN EIGHT HOURS.—In Buffalo, Francisco Peralto, on Monday, again attempted, on the Buffalo Park track, to ride against time 160 miles in eight hours, using thirty mustangs.—He accomplished the feat, with eleven minutes to spare. About 2,000 persons were present.

An Atlanta, Georgia, negro has succeeded in domesticating partridges, and now has about sixty young birds, hatched out in the spring, all doing well. They are tame, healthy, and seem contented,

BEDDING AND LITTER.—We can hardly do the readers of the MARYLAND FARMER a better service than that of giving them a few timely hints on litter and bedding for their cattle and horses. Hay and straw are worth too much for feed, when properly fed, to make bedding of them.

The next best articles to be used for bedding are forest leaves, saw-dust, and tan bark; when they are shoveled out, into the compost heap, a little lime sprinkled on every few days, is very useful, as it hastens rotting; also a little plaster, as it absorbs and holds the ammonia and other gases.

PERSONAL.—Last month we had the pleasure of a pleasant visit, from M. J. Lawrence, Esq., Editor of the *Ohio Farmer*; and we are glad to learn from him that his excellent and live journal is thriving; we know it deserves liberal patronage from the "Buckeyes."

THE INDEX.—A rich index of the contents of the volume of the MARYLAND FARMER, closing with this number will be found in the appropriate place in this number.

NEPETA.—A genus of plants, including catmint and ground ivy.

CENTENNIAL AWARDS.—By the reports we see that the Centennial Judges have made the following awards, among others, to people of Maryland, for excellence of the articles:

State Normal School, Pupils' work.

Gail & Ax, on Tobacco fabrics.

Clark & Sneider, Breech-Loading Guns.

Wm. Knabe & Co., on Pianos.

W. H. Jenifer, Horse, Jenifer Arabian.

Chas. M. Steiff, Pianos.

John Merryman, Hereford blood Cattle.

CLOSE OF THE EXPOSITION.—The greatest world's fair ever held was brought to a conclusion, Friday afternoon, Nov. 10th, President Grant directing the stoppage of the great Corliss engine at 35 minutes after 3. Appropriate exercises were held in the Judges' Hall, consisting of music, addresses and salutes. The crowds were terrific; over 30,000 persons are said to have left the Centennial Station for New York, in the afternoon, and one woman was killed in the press. The paid admissions of the whole season foot up over 8,000,000, and the cash receipts about \$3,680,000. The grounds are still open to visitors, but only 15,000 attend on Saturday, the 11th.—*Exchange*.

CASH PRICE FOR HOPS IN NEW YORK.—New York State, 10 to 17c per pound; eastern, 8 to 15c per pound; Wisconsin, 8 to 15c per pound; yearlings, 8 to 10c per pound; olds, all growths, 4 to 6c per pound; Californians, nominal, 15 to 18c per pound.

COMPLIMENTARY.—We cut the following pleasant notice of our Magazine, from the Washington *Critic*, in the writer of which, we recognize an old and esteemed friend, E. T. Peters, Esq., formerly connected with New York Tribune, Washington Chronicle, and other papers; but now, the leading and popular editor of the *Critic*, a sprightly and thriving daily:

The November number of the MARYLAND FARMER, which has just been received, is well filled with instructive matter of interest to the agriculturist and to the general reader. Its active writing editor is Col. D. S. Curtiss, formerly of this city, and well known as a former active organizer among the Patrons of Husbandry. Being a practical farmer, as well as a vigorous writer, Col. Curtiss, as the editor of such a periodical, is emphatically "the right man in the right place."

MARLBORO' GAZETTE.—We sincerely regret the long illness of the wise and venerable senior editor, Judge Wilson; but it gives rise to this felicitious reminder to subscribers, which we copy for all whom it may concern:

The Senior Editor of the GAZETTE has been unable, on account of sickness for six months past, to give his attention to business; consequently, collections have been been "contracted" and expenses "expanded." Even *soft* (rag) money has been *hard* to get. We ask our friends to make remittance of at least a part of their indebtedness.

"MARYLAND FARMER"—We welcome back to our exchange list this valuable and highly interesting agricultural monthly, whose columns are always filled with matter that pertains to the welfare and interest of the farmer and general news for the public. It is ably edited and is only \$1.50 per annum, in advance.—*Rural Messenger*.

SPLENDID WEEKLY PAPERS.—The people of Maryland have no need to send abroad for first-class family papers; the Sunday weeklies—the *Baltimorean*, and the *Telegram*, are equal to any of the same class published in any city. Address the publishers, in Baltimore, Md.

MARRIAGE AT THE BOLLINGBROOK HOTEL.—Miss Mollie Lou Harrison, of this city, and Mr. W. J. Ficklin, of Charlottesville, were married in the parlor of the Bollingbrook Hotel, Petersburg, Va. on Tuesday, 14th, in the presence of many relatives and acquaintances of the bridal party. They left on the night train for a trip North.—*Rural Messenger*.

MR. LAWRENCE SANGSTON.—A prominent and old resident of this city, died on the 7th of last month; he was a reliable business man, about 63 years of age, and his death much regretted.

HARFORD COUNTY FAIR.—Following are names of a few of those not named last month who took premiums at this fair:

On native *cattle*, R. M. McHenry. *Domestic* articles, Mrs. M. Spicer, Miss P. Richardson, Mrs. E. H. Hollingsworth, Miss C. Norris, Mrs. J. W.; Rutledge, Miss A. C. Hall, Mrs. M. C. Curtiss, Misses Marian Swartz, Sallie Edelen, Bessie Farnandis, A. A. Quinby, Mrs. H. F. Willis, and Mrs. Wm. Edelen. On *Fruits*, vegetables, &c., H. F. Willis and C. C. Kinsey. On *Hams*, J. R. Rutledge. On *Coal*, James Hopper.

TICKET BROKERS' GAZETTE.—This is the name of a small folio journal we have received, printed in Philadelphia, by S. F. Wilson. It is a brave, sharp sheet, devoted to showing and condemning the outrages of rapacious monopolies, which have become so prevalent, in our country. Success to it.

HORSE FIGHT.—A letter from Shippensburg, Pa., says: A strange occurrence took place at Roxbury, recently, which is certainly somewhat remarkable. A drover was passing through the village with two horses, when the animals, all of sudden, became enraged, and commenced to attack each other with mouth and hoof. The encounter was terrific, the two animals tearing each other like two bull dogs. It was found impossible to separate them until they fell over from sheer exhaustion and loss of blood.

The Necedah Cranberry Company, of Juneau county, Wisconsin, has gathered from its marshes about 2,000 barrels of choice berries. But for the flood resulting from extraordinary heavy fall rains, the company would have had over 5,000 barrels.

TONIC FOR THE HAIR.—In a quart of boiling water put an ounce of pulverized borax and half an ounce of camphor in crumbs. When cool it is ready for use. Dampen the hair with this solution frequently and brush it well. Keep it closely corked the bottle not the hair.—*Mrs. Lyman in New York Tribune*.

It is a good and safe rule to sojourn in every place as if you meant to spend your life there, never omitting an opportunity of doing a kindness, or speaking a true word, or making a friend. Seeds thus sown by the wayside often bring forth an abundant harvest.

"SPEAKING of having," said a pretty girl to an obdurate old bachelor, "I should think that a pair of handsome eyes would be the best mirror to shave by."

"Yes, many a poor fellow has been "shaving" by them," the wretch replied.

A nurseryman advertised that he would supply all sorts of fruits and plants, especially pie-plants of all kinds. A gentleman thereupon sent him an order for one package of custard-pie seed and a dozen mince-pie plants.

AFTER filing a saw, place it on a level board, and pass a wet one over the side of the teeth until all the wire edge is off them; this will make the saw cut true and smooth, and will remain sharp longer, the saw must be set true with a saw set.—*Scientific American*.

USEFUL RECIPES.

LIQUID GRAFTING WAX.—The *Horticulturist* gives the following formula for making Lefort's liquid grafting wax, which is said to have been highly commended in France, and until lately kept secret:

Melt one pound common resin over a gentle fire—Add to it an ounce of beef tallow, and stir it well. Take it from the fire, let it cool down a little, and then mix with a teaspoonful of spirits of turpentine, and after that about seven ounces of very strong alcohol (sixty-five per cent.) The alcohol cools it down so rapidly that it will be necessary to put it again on the fire, stirring it constantly. Still the utmost care must be exercised to keep the alcohol from getting inflamed. To avoid it, the best way is to remove the vessel from the fire when the lump that may have been formed commences melting again. This must be continued till this is a homogeneous mass similar to honey. After a few days' exposure to the atmosphere, it assumes a whitish color, and becomes as hard as stone, being impervious to water or air.

HOW TO POUR TEA.—The *Housekeeper* says: There is more to be learned about pouring out tea and coffee than most ladies are willing to believe. If those decoctions are made at the table, which is by far the best way, they require experience, judgment and exactness. If they are brought on the table ready made, it still requires judgment, so to apportion them that they shall prove sufficient in quantity for the family party, and that the elder members shall have the strongest cups. Often persons pour out tea who, not being at all aware that the first cup is the weakest, and the tea grows stronger as you proceed, bestow the poorest cup upon the greatest stranger, and give the strongest to a very young member of the family, who would have been better without any. Where several cups of equal strength are wanted, you should pour a little into each, and then go back, inverting the order as you fill them up, and then the strength will be apportioned properly. This is so well understood in England, that an experienced pourer of tea waits till all the cups of the company are returned to her before she fills any a second time, that all may share alike.

TO CURE SMALL POX.—A writer in California says: "Here is the recipe as I have used it and cured my children of scarlet fever. Here it is as I have used it to cure small pox; when learned physicians said the patient must die, it cured."

Sulphate of zinc, one grain; fox glove (*digitalis*), one grain; half-teaspoonful of sugar, mix with two tablespoonfuls of water. When thoroughly mixed, add four ounces of water—take a spoonful every hour. Either disease will disappear in twelve hours. For a child, smaller doses, according to age. If counsels would compel their physicians to use this there would be no need of pest-houses. If you value advice and experience use this for that terrible disease.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—For November, is freighted with information to the farmer on all subjects that he is interested in, and presents a valuable guide-book to all those engaged in tilling the soil.—*Sunday Telegram*.

MADISON PATRIOT.—We are in receipt of this excellent Democratic paper, published at Madison, Wisconsin, daily and weekly, by S. D. Carpenter, Esq., popularly known as "Pump Carpenter," from a valuable pump which he invented some years ago. He has also invented other useful implements. His Associate Editor, H. A. Tenny, Esq., who is a tasteful fruit grower and gardener, in that section, has become distinguished for his fine successes on his place, well known as the "Potato Patch." These experienced gentlemen appreciate the MARYLAND FARMER, and adopt its farming instructions.

SPICY SWEETMEATS.—A lady friend gives us this recipe for a nice conserve: Take the roots of sweet flag (*calamus*) nicely washed, and cut into small pieces; to each two pounds of the roots take one pound of sugar, dissolved in water enough to make a thin syrup; into it, put the roots, and let slowly boil over a gentle fire 15 or 20 minutes; then spread the whole in plates and leave it dry; it makes a pleasant candy to eat, and is good for colds.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The November number of this excellent magazine came to hand last Wednesday, and on the same day we received a pleasant visit from one of its editors, Col. "Wat" Bowie. The face of each look cheery and bright, the former with good news for the field and farm, the latter with the good news of TILDEN's glorious triumph. May the *Farmer* and Colonel both live to see the fruits of a good government in the happiness and prosperity of a united people.—*Marlboro' Gazette*.

HOP MARKET.—New York, Nov. 10.—We have to report another quiet week in hops. Our revised quotations show a decline in the price of all description of new hops excepting eastern; which, owing to their scarcity, command more money. The receipts and exports show a large falling off from last week. Thirty-five cents is now the top price paid by shippers for choice State hops. Californians bring 36, with very few on offer.—*Herald*.

WHOLESALE CASH PRICE FOR HOPS.—New Yorks, good to choice, new, 32c to 35c; New Yorks, low to fair, new, 24c to 30c; Eastern, new, 30c to 33c; Wisconsin, new, 24c to 30c; Yearlings, 10c to 20c; Olds, all growths, 4c to 8c; Californians, new, 42c to 36c.

REPORT OF COUNTY FAIRS.—We were honored with invitations to numbers of the county fairs, of this and adjoining States, for which we are thankful; but, of course, we could attend very few of them.—We will, therefore, be further thankful if the officers or other parties will early send us reports of their results and displays.

LADIES DEPARTMENT.

A CHAT WITH THE LADIES FOR
DECEMBER.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

PASSING AWAY.

Passing away!

'Tis told by the dew drops that sparkle at morn,
And when the noon cometh are gone, ever gone,
They all in their diamond glittering say,
Man's life like our radiance is passing away,
Passing away.

Passing away!

'Tis written on flowers that bloom at our side,
Then wither away in their glory and pride,
Tho' speechless, they warn us each hour of the day,
Man's life, like our bloom, is fast passing away,
Passing away.

Passing away!

'Tis sighed by the leaves when the chill autumn
breeze,
Tears rudely their hold from the wind shaken trees,
They whisper alike to the youthful and gay,
Man's life, like the autumn leaves, passeth away,
Passeth away!

Passing away!

The dear ones we loved in our youthful morn,
Now gone to that bourne whence none may return,
Speak gently unto us, ho! list while ye may—
Man's short life is passing, is passing away,
Passing away.

These lines are appropriate to *December*, the closing month of the passing year. Time and human beings are alike passing away. A few days, and the year 1876—the great American Centennial year! will have passed away, never to return, swallowed up in the great ocean of the past.

During the year how many love-ties have been broken? How many dearest connections of kindred and of affectionate hearts have been severed, and the happiest domestic relations destroyed, by the ruthless scythe of time, and its steady companion, death. But such are the immutable laws of nature, even time, itself, must cease and “pass away” into eternity. How blessed is the Christian's hope to be a partaker of a blisful *eternity*.

These serious reflections are forced upon me by events of the past year, connected with myself.—Among others to whom I have been bound by ties of friendship, there were two, linked to me by the sweet bonds of love and near kindred. One in

the maturity of years, with a number of children and descendants, of whom she was their idol, after a lingering illness, passed from an active life of usefulness and well-doing, to a realm where her many virtues will receive their reward. The other was a Christian gentleman of rapidly rising fame, highly gifted and learned, possessing every grace and quality of character to win popular applause, and endear him to his professional brothers; enjoying robust health and vigor of mind and body, was suddenly called in the midst of an important trial, while discharging manfully his duty before an earthly court, to leave wife, children, clients and friends and fame, to appear at the bar of his God, in whose bosom, it is believee, his soul reposes.—Thus, the elderly and long-suffering, as also the strong and great, are alike snatched away to that “undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns,” but to which the whole family of man is hastening with greater or less rapidity.

Why then, should we, like children, loiter on the way, attracted by every butterfly and every bauble that a vain world presents to allure us to stray from the right path, in the delusive hope that these evanescent illusions, if once obtained, will bring us riches, glory and happiness for all time and thereafter? Why should we not so live as to vex not our self-monitor—conscience—and thereby secure a good record for the final tribunal?

True religion is love and obedience to God, and love to our neighbor. Besides these, one of the chief virtues is charity. Be charitable to the poor and sick in *deeds*, and be charitable to all in *word* and *thought*.

Winter, with its beauties and its piercing rigor, is on us, and should force us to remember the needy:

“Ye, who in happy homes,
Smile when the snow shower comes,
Think of the sad ones who weep at its fall,
Think, think how pitiful,
An object so beautiful,
Should, like a spectre, the needy appall.

Pray for these helpless ones;
Give to these suffering ones;
Dry the sad tear-drops that freeze as they flow;
Mercy and charity
Smooth life's disparity;
Warm poor hearts chilled by winter and snow,”

And another poet bursts forth in the following glowing strain:

“Better than grandeur, better than gold,
Than rank and title a thousand fold,
Is a healthy body, a mind at ease,
And simple pleasures that always please;
A heart that can feel for a neighbor's woe,
And share his joys with a genial glow,
With sympathies large enough to enfold
All men as brothers, is better than gold.”

It is not my desire to intrude my own clouded thoughts upon my kind readers, nor to inflict a saddening sermon at this joyful season, which brings to all of them, I hope, a Merry Christmas, which our noble women kept so soberly one hundred years ago, not indulging in even a cup of their favorite beverage made of China's precious plant.

It would be ingratitude to our merciful Creator, if we only looked at the shadows on life's pathway, and not recall with joy its sunny spots, for,

"As we look back through life in our moments of sadness,
How few and how brief are the gleanings of gladness!
Yet we find, 'mid the gleam that our pathway o'er-shaded,
A few spots of sunshine, a few flowers unfaded;
And memory still hoards, as her richest of treasures,
Some moments of rapture—some exquisite pleasures."

Let me urge our young friends to take all the exercise in the open air that weather and opportunities will allow, that they may secure vigorous constitutions and have on their cheeks the rosy hue of health, that their young hearts may enjoy more fully the gladness and happiness which innocent amusements bring to every contented mind and happy soul in the morning of life.

We will now have a word about your occupation and pleasant December work.

For your winter floral decoration of windows and sitting rooms, do not fail to provide baskets and pots filled with appropriate plants for such culture. Secure some hyacinth glasses to be used about New Year, so as to have a bloom in February or March. Get glazed ware, or wire work in form of animals or birds, and fill with moss, in which plant crocus, to suit your taste as to colors, so thick that when they bloom they will hide the wire work or the vessel. These things cost but little, and become objects of admiration and delight during the dark days of winter. Sow *Reseda Odorata*, named by the French, *mignonnette*—*little darling*—appropriate name, and hence, so called and known for the last hundred years. It is a universal favorite, and has its history wreathed with traditional love. It derives its name from *resedare*, to assuage, as some of the species is excellent to relieve pain.

This plant is strictly an annual, but can be made a perennial by training one stem to a stick 18 inches high, and keeping the leaves and side shoots clear along the stem to near the top as it grows to that height. And never allow the seed to form. A miniature tree is thus formed and will bloom winter and summer for years, filling the room or garden with its sweet, penetrating perfume. Some think its odor is overpowering in a close room.—Seeds sown in autumn or early winter make better plants than when sown in spring.

In the flower garden, straw-up tender roses, vines, &c. The hyacinth, tulip and other beds, in which bulbs are planted, ought to be covered two or three inches deep with leaves or coarse litter free from grass seeds. Lay over the leaves some brush to keep them from blowing away. Well rotted manure spread over the lawn will greatly help the grass and furnish a fine green turf early in the spring.

In your rambles in the woods, if you see any wild flowers or plants that you recognize, and desire to have in your garden collection, it is not too late to transplant them if taken up with some earth about the roots, and plant them in situations agreeable to their habits; that is, if growing in dense shade, set them among thick shrubbery; if they like moist ground, try and suit them; or, if they naturally grow in dry ground, exposed to the sun, see that you select a spot of the like kind for their new homes, and they will soon accommodate themselves to their enforced situation.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Invention by a Lady—Centennial.

Messrs. Editors—I can fancy that your stock of patience may be taxed to find interest in my rambling chats. Had I the powers of description possessed by George Eliot you would be more bountifully supplied and instructed; but if you can be patient, I will tell you and your readers about something I saw, in my last visit, at the Centennial, invented by a lady, Miss Ella Haller, of New York city; it is a *reservoir fruit jar*.

The invention displays much ingenuity and knowledge of philosophy; the *vacuum* produced by the hollow glass stopper is surely based on true philosophical principles; she must have been a close student to invent and apply these principles in so simple and yet useful a manner; and the peculiar *screw* to attach it, is even more ingenious than the hollow stopper.

I hope all housekeepers will procure this jar for canning and preserving their fruits and vegetables, for three good reasons:

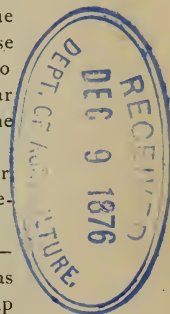
1st—they are very low priced or cheap; 2nd—they are undoubtedly the very best; 3rd—it was invented by a woman; God helps them that help themselves—then let us help ourselves, as women, in these things.

[Amen, says the Editor; and the inventor, Miss Ella, would do well to appoint "Flora," our correspondent, her agent and advocate for this good endorsement and advertisement of her jars, in the pages of the MARYLAND FARMER, to its readers—the intelligent American farmers and *farmeresses* new coined word, by Flora.]

Why, if women only knew it and would think so they might invent as well as the men; [yes, schemes and yarns] their perceptive faculties are more lively than men's, but perhaps they lack persistent application of their genius.

A visitor in Machinery Hall said he had learned to be humble and more respectful toward women, since a distinguished inventor once told him that when his machine was exhibited at the American Institute no woman ever asked him a foolish question in regard to it, while many foolish questions were put by the men, [the women asked no questions.]

I learned, to-day, that the Centennial Commissioners, in order to give *eclat* to their denouement, will receive proposals from the old maids and widows, and old bachelors and widowers; they will receive, and review and exchange them with appropriate parties; thinking, that in the *press* of business, you might overlook this announcement, I just call your attention to it, for the benefit of all par-



ties concerned; who by applying, "may hear of something to her or his advantage. My own application is already on file, and, as a sample form, reads, thusly,—a lady, who might be forty, or might be twenty-five; black eyes and light hair—not considered very sweet tempered or too hand; some by her competitor widows, but might be judged more favorably by a disconsolate widower, who would be accepted, at a pinch; no objection to going into the country; if successful, shall bless the Centennial,!"

If there is not millions in it, for the poor, disconsolate men and women, some of them, who have inventive genius, may utilize it to make their little fortunes.

FLORA.

The Centennial—Close.

An interesting letter from an esteemed lady at the Centennial is received, but our Magazine is so nearly "set up," that we have room for but portions of it, as follows:

Editor Maryland Farmer—Dear Sir.—The great event,—the United States, Centennial Exhibition has passed! master effort of man! For us, except that the South was unable to hold her legitimate share in its existence—what did it not contain? The magnitude of the answer would be appalling, viewed in any aspect, its wonders never cease.

I would, if possible, describe to you its closing life, which up to the very last day was a still greater crowning success, judging from the amount of public interest. The universal exclamation arose is it not a pity it cannot remain permanently, together with the remark, I want every one to enjoy as great a treat as I had.

The same good feeling prevailed up to the last, and one long universal regret seems audible. Still we may derive incalculable profit upon our return to our homes, when we can reflect carefully upon one subject after another and bring out from the mass of ideas, forever crowding upon the mind, the results in distinct form.

One particular branch separated from others is the rare display of birds and poultry. To all whose taste or interests lead them thitherward the enjoyment must have been very great, since much comparison was offered between the different breeds, nearly all of them first class, excepting only by the unfortunate period of the moulting season.

For those peculiarly of greatest value the Brown Leghorns had the expressed supremacy for the supply of eggs, but for beauty the question was greatly divided and necessarily so, such as those of very beautiful plumage, and there were many unexceptionable ones, others of fine form, others of enormous size, all requiring a sight to appreciate. And for those who estimate the value of the carrier pigeon by the quantity of warty excrescence covering the bill, could not have asked for more, since the wonder was how enough of the bill was left to be of use at all. The vain little Fantails united with the Pouters to display their particular characteristics in a manner quite amusing. The Tumblers not having space enough accorded for a like

display we were forced to take the word of those better informed. Surely, the display will have the effect to call for a greater distribution of those beautiful pets among our private citizens. DOVE.

MUCILAGE.—Much of the sticking on Government postage stamps don't stick; but farmers can make a very good and cheap mucilage of the gum which runs out of their cherry trees; get a good chunk of it, put it in a small bottle, pour in vinegar to dissolve it; keep it corked, and it will stick well, and save need of the following complaint by the Detroit Free Press:

If mucilage is of any value whatever, the parties who have the contract for gumming the one-cent postage stamps must have realized a small fortune by this time, as the quantity of gum they did not put on is simply immense. The ratio of those who will stick, to those that won't, is as one to—well, something less than twenty.

A Kansas city surgeon has put a new lip on a young girl of that place, and the newspapers out there look upon it as a wonderful feat. Young girls in Annapolis often have new lips put upon them and the operation is so common that the newspapers here don't think it worth mentioning.—*Gazette*.

FLORIDA NEW YORKER.—This is a handsome quarto paper, printed in New York, by J. B. Oliver, Esq., in the interest of land sales in Florida, and settlements to that State; with a good map of portions of the State, and numerous beautiful engravings of scenery, &c., in Florida; see prospectus in our advertising pages.

N. J. AGRICULTURIST.—The editor, C. J. Westall, Esq., has sent us a copy of a new farmers' paper, just started at New Brunswick, N. J., with the above title.

Judging from the number which we have before us, this must be a useful and desirable magazine for the farmers and orchardists of that State, as it is ably edited and well printed. See prospectus in another page.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The November number is in all respects an excellent issue, and must impart much gratification to all who may peruse its pages. Its agricultural, horticultural, live stock, poultry, dairy, apairy and ladies' department, are filled with articles of interest, and its miscellany presents the usual attractions.—*Baltimorean*.

FINE WINES.—We have been favored with several bottles of excellent wines from Maj. Luther Giddings, the manufacturer, at his vineyards, Annapolis, Maryland. He sent us two varieties, *Ives' Seedling* and *Concord*, both very fine and clear; thanks.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

BALTIMORE MARKETS--DEC. 1.

This Market Report is carefully made up every month, and farmers may rely upon its correctness.

Ashes—The market nominal at 5 cents for Pot, and 7 cents for Pearl.

Bark—The market steady and unchanged. We quote No. 1 at \$25; No. 2 at \$12a20 per ton, free on board.

Beans and Peas—The market is dull and easier. We quote—
New York medium choice..... \$2 00a2 10
New York Prime..... \$1 10a1 15
Country Beans..... 70a 80

Beeswax—Receipts light, and prices steady; in fair demand. We quote at 20a25 cents.

Broom Corn—The market; prices lower. We quote good to choice medium grain. 5½a7 cents; common red tipped, 6 cents per pound.

Butter—
Ex. Fine Choice. Prime.
New York State..... 18a20 28a29
North Western Roll..... 18a19 25a27 20a23
Western Reserve do..... 25a27 21a22 18a20
Western packed..... 23a24 20a22 18a20
Near by Receipts..... 21a26 a22 17a20

Cheese—
New York State Choice..... 12 a13
do. do. Good to prime..... 12 a13
Western Fine..... 9 a11
do. Good to prime..... 9 a10

Dried Fruits—DOMESTIC—
Apples, sliced..... 8 a10
do. quarters..... 7 a9
Peaches, peeled..... 12 a16
do. unpeeled quarters..... 8 a10
do. halves..... 8 a10

Feathers—We quote 60 cents for Western Live Geese, 50a55 cents for good do., and 20a45 cents for common to fair per lb.

GRAINS.

CORN.

Southern White..... 57a58
do. Yellow..... 57a60

WHEAT.

Western No. 1 Amber..... \$1 35 a1 40
do. No. 2 do..... 1 29 a 30
do. Mixed do..... a
do. No. 1 Red..... 1 40 a1 44
do. No. 2 do..... 95 a1 15
Penns Ivanla Red..... 1 30 a1 39
Maryland Red..... 1 21 a1 28
do. Amber..... 1 50 a1 52
do. White..... 1 45 a1 50

OATS.

Southern good to prime..... 35a38

RYE.

Good to prime..... 72a73

Hay and Straw—

Hay—Cecil Co. Timothy..... \$16 00a18 00
do. Penn. and New York..... 14 00a15 00
do. Mixed..... 13 00a14 00
do. Clover..... 11 00a12 00
Straw—Wheat..... 10 00a11 00
do. Oat..... 14 00a15 00
do. Rye..... 14 00a16 00

Hides—Market fair; quotations as follows: Association Steers, selected middle and overweights, 9a11 cents. Cows and light Steers, 10 cents.

Mill Feed—

Western Bran, per ton..... \$12 00a15 00
do. Shipstuf, per ton..... 12 00a13 00

Onions—astern \$1.75a2.25 for round lots; Western \$1.25a2.00 per bbl.

Potatoes—

New Potatoes, per bbl..... 200a2 75
Early Rose, per bushel..... 30a 33
do. per bbl..... \$1 10a1 25
Peerless, per bus..... 30a-32
do. per bbl..... 1 00a1 25
Peach Blow, per bus..... 35a 40
do. per bbl..... 1 11a1 25
Sweet Potatoes per bbl..... 1 75a2 00

Eggs—

Fresh Western..... 20a27
Near by receipts..... 27a28
Pickled..... a—
Fresh Southern..... 13a14

Poultry and Game—

Live Turkeys, undrawn..... 12 a15
Chickens per dozen..... 2.00a4.00
Ducks "..... 4 00a5.50
Geese..... 7 a 8

(Drawn 1a3 cents higher, as to quality)

LIVE STOCK.

BEEF CATTLE.

That rated first quality..... 5 a6 cents
Medium or fair quality..... 4½a5 do.
Most sales are from..... 4½a5½ do.

Hogs—\$9 a10, latter for a few extra heavy Hogs.

Sheep—We quote at 4½a 7½ cents per lb., gross.

Seeds—Clover scarce and in demand.

Clover Alsike..... \$ b 50c
do Lucerne Best..... 50c
do Red, Choice..... 14a15
do White..... 80c
Flaxseed..... \$ bush. 1.40a1 50
Grass Red Top..... \$ bush. 1.00a3.50
do Orchard..... 3.00a3.25
do Italian Rye..... 3.50
do Hungarian..... 1.50a1.75
do Timothy 45 lb..... 2.00a2.10
do Kentucky Blue..... 1.50a1.75
do Extra Clean..... 1.75a2.00
do Fine mixed for lawns..... 4.00a5.00

Tobacco—LEAF—

Maryland- Frosted..... \$3 00a 4 00
do. sound common..... 4 00a7 50
do. good do..... 7 00a7 50
do. middling..... 9 00a12 00
do. good to fine red..... 12 00a20 00
do. fancy..... 12 00a17 00
do. upper country..... 7 50a25 00
do. ground leaves, new..... 2 00a 9 00
Virginia—common and good lugs..... 8 50a10 50
do. common to medium leaf..... 9 00a13 00
do. fair to good..... 13 00a16 00
do. selections..... 6 00a20 00
do. stems, common to fine..... 4 00a 7 00

Wool—For Tub-washed, 35a40 cents; unwashed. 25a30 cents per lb.

Miscellaneous Produce—

Peas, black eye, per bus..... 1 35 a1 40
Apples, New York, per bbl..... 1 75 a2 00
do. country do..... 1 50 a 1 00
Sheep's Pelts, each..... 50 a1 00
Tallow, country, per lb..... 8½a 9
Soap, country, per lb..... 4 a 6
Sunae We quote American per ton, \$78.00a\$2.00; Sicily, 90a1.00.

Fertilizers—Jobbing rates are here quoted. Contracts for large orders can be made at reduced figures. 2,000 lbs. to the ton.

Peruvian Guano..... \$59 00a60 00
Turner's Excelsior..... \$50 00
do Ammonia Sup. Phos..... 45 00
Soluble Pacific Guano..... 45 00
Rasin's & Co.'s Sol. S. Is. Guano..... 50 00
Excellenza Soluble Phosphate..... 50 00
do Cotton Fertilizer..... 50 00
John Bullock & Sons' Pure Ground Bone..... 42 00
J. M. Rhodes & Co.'s Ammoniated Phosphate..... 45 00
Popplein's Silicated Phosphate of Lime..... 50 00
Lorentz & Rifter's Star Tobacco Fertilizer..... 55 00
do do do Ammoniated..... 50 00
do do do Dissolved Bone..... 50 00
R. J. Baker & Co.'s Ground Bone..... 40 00a42 00
R. J. Baker & Co.'s Dissolved Raw Bone..... 45 00
Zell's Ammon. Bone Super Phos..... 45 00
Whitman's Phosphate..... 45 00
Missouri Bone Meal..... 43 00
Horner's Md. Super Phosphate..... 50 00
do Bone Dust..... 45 00
Dissolved Bones..... 45 00
Moro Phillips' Super Phosphate of Lime..... 48 00
Plaster..... per bbl. 1 75
Orchilla Guan A. per ton..... 30 00
South Sea Guano..... 50 00
Slingluff & Co's Dissolved Raw Bone..... 45 00
Slingluff & Co's Dissolved Bone Ash..... 40 00a42 00
Whitman's Potato Phosphate..... 45 00
do Dissolved Missouri Bone..... 45 00
do Bone Ash..... 43 00

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A large and varied assortment of

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Will exchange for good Live Stock or other good property

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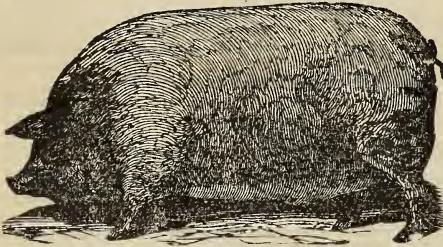
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For sale, including, among others,

75,000 Peach Trees,	- - -	\$ 80.00 per 1000
150,000 Apple "	- - -	100.00 "
150,000 Osage Orange Trees,	- - -	3.00 "
25,000 Maple Trees,	- - -	250.00 "
100,000 Concord Grape,	- - -	25.00 "

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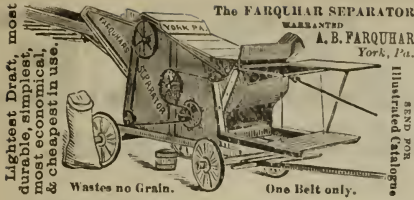
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The following are among my specialties:

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Polished, Hardened Steel and Cast Iron. Farquhar's Cast Steel Model Plow, one and two horse, warranted in any soil, and under all circumstances, *second to none*.—American Clipper, Full Steel, one, two and three horse. Atwood and Ohio Cast Plows, two and three horse. Subsoil Plows, Steel soled, two and three horse. Hillside or Swivel Plows, &c., &c.

Shovel Plows, Cultivators, Sulkie Plows Made of the best White Oak, or Refined Iron Beams, with hardened Steel Shovels, Plain or Reversible.

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Cultivator Teeth, hardened steel, Shovel Plow Blades, Cotton Scrapers, Improved Dickson Cotton Sweeps, &c., all of best Steel, made expressly for my use.

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SOUTH SEA GUANO

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(The same article as imported in 1872.)

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B. M. RHODES & CO., Importers,

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Rich in Phosphates, Ammonia and other Alkaline Salts,

AS PER ANALYSIS, containing in one ton of 2,000 pounds, say

34 pounds Ammonia,

39 pounds Potash,

38 pounds Phosphoric Acid,

Also, LIME, MAGNESIA, and other valuable constituents in smaller quantities.—

For sale, packed in barrels or bags, at \$15 per ton, 2,000 pounds, by

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GRANGE'S AMERICAN SUPER PHOSPHATE,

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Bone Phosphate of Lime, 53.148 per cent.; Ammonia 3.69 per cent.;
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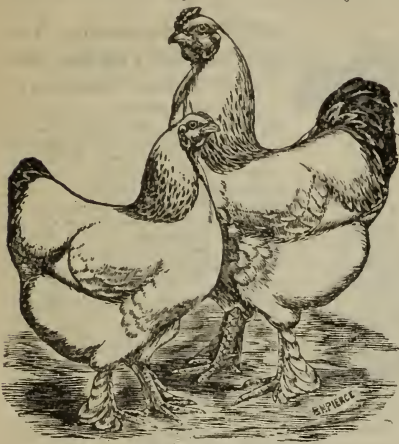
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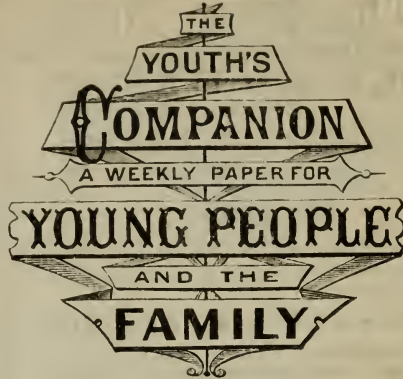
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The Proprietors will be grateful for the continuance of the extensive patronage they now enjoy, and will do their best to give entire satisfaction to all visitors.

jan.-lv.

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Wind, an untiring servant, that labors day and night, without food, fuel, rest, attention, wages, or instructions.

STOVER Automatic Wind Engine, for Pumping Water, Grinding Grain, &c.



A perfect self-regulating machine, taking care of itself in storms, as a thing of life. Is very compact and strong, with solid wheel, heavy castings, and anti-friction rotary balls, enabling the Mill to get full benefit of the slightest changing of the breeze. No light levers, wires, hinges, or springs used, is built on a strong self-bracing patented Tower, without any mortices and whose tips and base are wider than their place of crossing. [See cut.] Has taken premiums at many State fairs. Several hundreds are in use, in the Eastern,

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Stover Wind Engine Co.,
GREENCASTLE,
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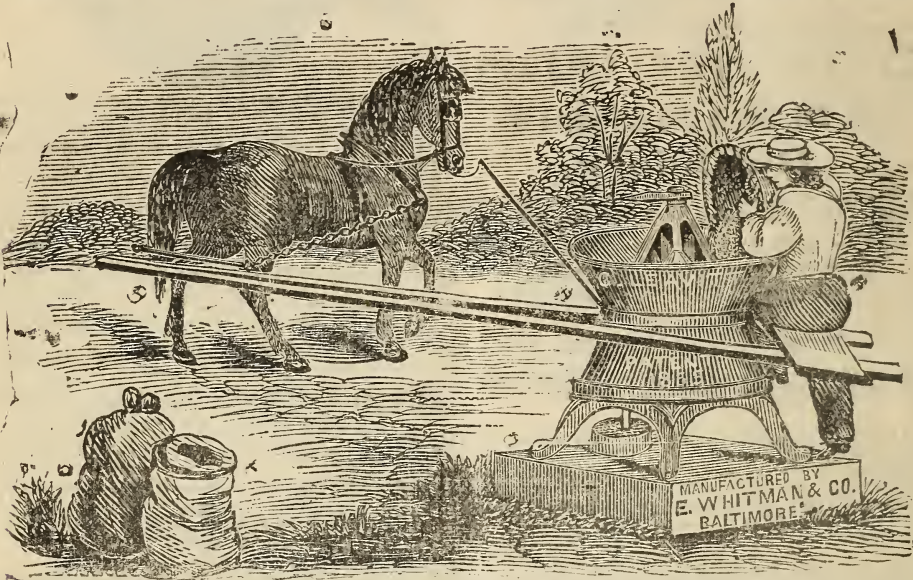
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The Young America Corn and Cob Mill, which so far surpasses all others, has been improved and made stronger than ever, and is now in the field, carrying everything before it. We annex a list of the Premiums it has received over the Double Cylinder, Little Giant, Magic Mill, Star Mill, Maynard's Mill, and all others that have come into competition with it.

First Premium at New York State Fair.

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" " " Michigan, "

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PRICE \$50.

TRIAL OF CORN AND COB MILLS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR.

The following Table shows the Time occupied by each of the Mills on Exhibition in Grinding half a bushel of Corn and Cobs.

YOUNG AMERICA, 2 minutes and 40 seconds.

LITTLE GIANT, 4 " 45 "

MAGIC MILL, 6 "

SINCLAIR & CO.'S MILLS, 2 trials, average time, 6 minutes, 58 seconds.

E. WHITMAN & SONS,

145 and 147 Pratt Street, Baltimore, Md.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., NOVEMBER 20th, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons, Baltimore, Md.

Gents.—Your favor of the 18th, making inquiry of the results of my experience in use of your "Young America Corn & Cob Mill," has been received. I take pleasure in stating that the experiment has been entirely satisfactory, and I regard it as a valuable adjunct in providing for winter-feeding stock, and sold at a very reasonable price, for its merits.

Respectfully yours, JOHN S. BARBOUR.

RICHMOND, VA., NOVEMBER 1st, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—Yours of 30th received. We have sold quite a number of your "Young America Corn & Cob Mills" during the past year, and they have all given entire satisfaction. We believe it is the best mill of the kind in the market.

Respectfully yours, H. M. SMITH & CO.

FREDERICK CITY, MD., NOVEMBER 20th, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—In answer to your inquiry concerning the merits of the "Young America Corn & Cob mill," would say that in our experience we believe it is the best mill for farmers and stock feeders use, that is made. It is cheap, simple, durable, and does good and satisfactory work when the grain is in proper condition for grinding. It will crush the corn and cobs fine enough for feed in one operation, and also grind shell corn, rye, oats, barley, and screenings as good as any grist mill. It is the most economical machine a farmer can buy.

Yours, Respectfully, STEWART & PRICE.

HILLSBORO, LOUDOUN CO., VA., NOVEMBER 20th, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—I used one of the "Young America Corn & Cob Mills" last winter, and found it in every respect what it was recommended. Every farmer should have one, and I feel satisfied that the use of the mill one season would pay for it, not only in feeding stock, but in grinding corn for meal, which it will do admirably, also other small grains.

Very respectfully, T. E. HOUGH.

ELKIN, N. C. NOVEMBER 22nd, 1876.

E. Whitman & Sons.

Gentlemen:—The "Young America Corn & Cob Mill" bought of you a few months ago, for one of our firm, gives entire satisfaction. Does all you recommend, and more; find it also grinds rye well.

Please send us another for a customer, to Windsor, N. C., via York River Line, as soon as convenient. So soon as our great National affairs are favorably settled, and money matters become easier, we will want several more of these mills.

Yours truly, R. R. GWYN & CO.

CULPEPER CO., VA., NOVEMBER 19th, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gents.—Your postal received to-day. In regard to "Young America Corn & Cob Mill," allow me to say, it will make excellent meal, when the corn is dry. It has worked very satisfactory to me. As to crushing corn and grinding cob meal, that is, corn and cob together; it seems to me it accomplishes all that can be reasonably expected or desired, and has particularly excited the hostility of the millers around me, which may be considered a very fair proof of its merits. I have had 44 bushels cob meal ground in one short winter day by a Negro boy 10 or 12 years old, with one horse.

Yours, &c., WALTER C. PRESTON.

HIRNDON, GEORGIA, NOVEMBER 21st, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gents.—With the aid of one mule the "Young America Corn & Cob Mill" makes excellent hominy for the table, and turns out splendid feed for horses, hogs and cows. In a few hours I can grind enough to last my stock a week. I am well pleased with it and would cheerfully recommend their more general use.

Very respectfully, A. P. WIGGINS.

LLCHESTER, MD., NOVEMBER 4th, 1876.

Messrs. E. Whitman & Sons.

Gents.—The "Young America Corn & Cob Mill" will grind from six to ten bushels an hour according to the power you have and the fineness of the corn. It will save a great deal of corn in feeding horses; and as for cattle, it has no equal. Cattle improve much faster, and never get stalled if fed with a little care.

Respectfully, G. HOWARD WHITE.

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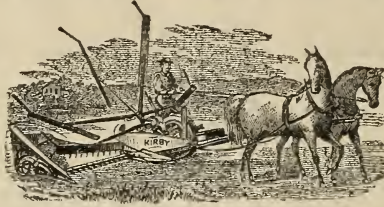
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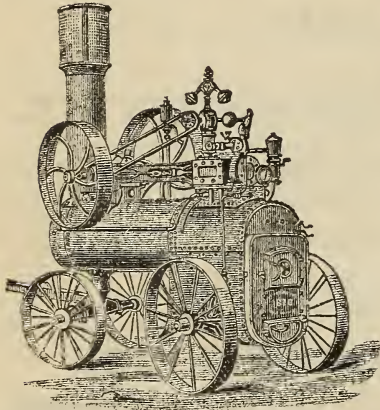
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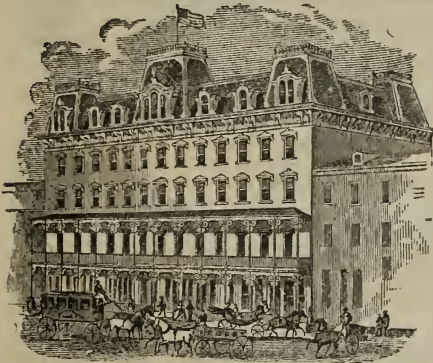
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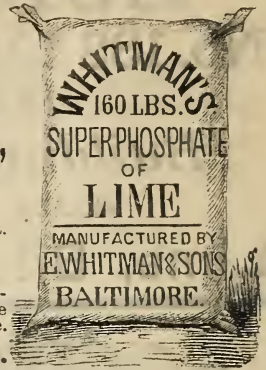
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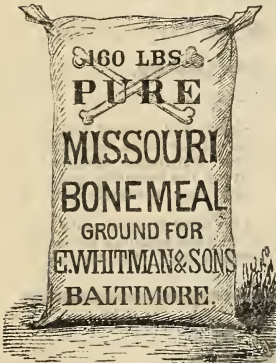
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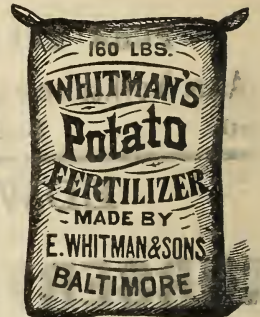
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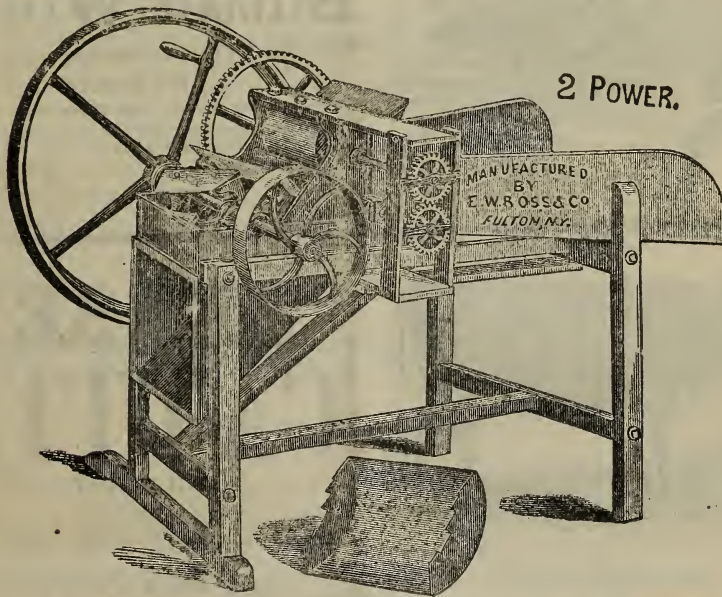
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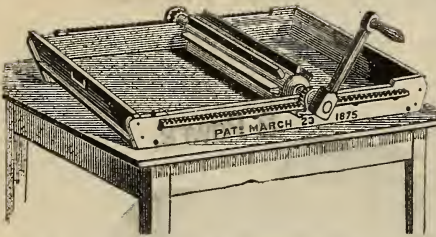
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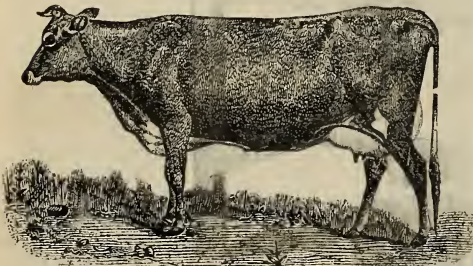
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